

STEVEN JUETT

HONORING ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING OUR VETS

The many organizations that provide support to our veterans deserve recognition for their service. This month we have chosen to spotlight one a support organization nominated by a reader.

Project Veteran Assistance, Inc.
By Suzanne McDonnell

Project Veteran Assistance was established in 2008 by Steve Juett and his wife, Sue. Steve was born in Durant, Oklahoma and lived many places in Oklahoma as his father was with Lone Star Gas. Steve graduated from Idabel High School and went to live with his grandmother in Durant to attend Southeastern State University. After college, Steve began his career with PSO and lived in both the eastern and western part of the state. After 12 years with PSO, Steve transitioned into insurance and finally into Retirement Planning in 1995. He continued to build his practice around the needs of seniors, and in 2000, Steve became the owner and Manager of Senior Options, LLC.

Sue and Steve were members of a RV group, and during one of the trips, met the head of the VA in Oklahoma. As it turned out, this gentlemen, helped Steve have a clearer understanding of benefits available to veterans, widows of veterans and their families. That relationship provided beneficial to not only his business, but his personal life. Steve's father was a World War II veteran serving in the Army Air Corp in the Philippines. After Steve's father died in 1996, and his mother's health began to fail in 2004, Steve realized it was time to try to get assistance for his mother. His friend in the VA helped Steve with the applications and paperwork to get benefits for his mother. Then he later assisted Steve again to obtain benefits for his mother-in-law.

So when talking to people about retirement, Steve made it his mission to assist as many possible families that he could, making them aware of their eligibility of VA benefits and helping in whatever ways legally possible in obtaining those benefits.

Over time, contacts with the VA were lost, but while attending a conference, he met a gentlemen from St. Louis that was very knowledgeable in veteran benefits. Later in 2008, Steve went to St. Louis and attended training by that gentlemen. After the training, Steve cautiously began helping people and clients with assistance to get the veterans benefits that were available to them. Steve said, "It exploded and became a passion that was not planned. Out of that passion, Project Veteran Assistance was born." Project Veteran Assistance is a state not-for-profit business and is supported entirely by Senior Options, LLC. Steve added, "Senior Options allow us to do Project Veteran Assistance."

Steve attends annual Joint Service Officers Training Seminar (JSOTS) with the State Veterans Organizations' Service Officers in Oklahoma City with training being provided by the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs. The annual training provides updates in benefits He receives a yearly certificate for successfully completing the school and has earned the title of Veteran Advocate from the VFW.