

# Heart of Valor and San Tan Ford Team Up to Honor a Veteran at the 2015 NHRA Races AZ Rider

Earlier this year, race fans were given the opportunity to Nominate A Warrior to win an amazing NHRA package, sponsored by San Tan Ford of Gilbert on behalf of Heart of Valor. Both Active Duty and Veteran Warriors were eligible to win.

The prize included a car *{a Ford Mustang convertible}* from San Tan Ford for NHRA weekend ~ February 20-22 at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park, dinner at Majerle's Sports Grill in Chandler, 2 nights at Wild Horse Pass Casino & Resort in Chandler, 'meet & greet' with drivers & teams including photo ops in pit area, and VIP treatment at the San Tan Ford suite at the raceway's starting line. *San Tan Ford's suite has been voted the best sports suite in Arizona!*

We learned from Samantha Kemp, Operations Manager for Heart of Valor, Inc., "The candidates had to have served with no dishonorable discharges, etc. We asked that the person nominating provide the warrior's name, years served, branch of service, email and phone number. We also asked the person nominating to provide their information as well because the person nominating would get to come too!"

The Nominate A Warrior campaign ran for a couple of months. Ballots could be submitted at San Tan Ford, at Chandler Harley-Davidson, plus at area events. People could also use social media & go to the [WWW.HEARTOFVALOR.ORG](http://WWW.HEARTOFVALOR.ORG) website and submit a ballot. Hundreds of nominations were received.

The final choice was determined by Bob Johnston from San Tan Ford. He drew the name randomly from the nominations in a big box at the Chandler H-D Bike Night held at Majerle's in Chandler.

The winner was Dennis "Denny" Waller, an Army Vet 1964-68. His wife Suzie nominated him. They live in Scottsdale. Samantha noted, "We couldn't have chosen a bigger 'Gear Head' in our wildest dreams. Denny is the most humble and kindest person you will ever meet."

At the end of the weekend Denny Waller commented, "This is the best weekend we've ever had! Everyone has been so kind and friendly!!"

Heart of Valor extends thanks to San Tan Ford, Majerle's Sports Grill, and Wild Horse Pass for stepping up for this Warrior and for Heart Of Valor. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

Drawn from their website, [www.heartofvalor.org...](http://www.heartofvalor.org...)

Heart of Valor is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created to honor those who exemplify the word 'Valor'. Our definition of Valor is, 'Strength of mind or spirit that enables a person to encounter danger with firmness.' Our heroes are the brave men and women who have answered the call of duty. They are the mothers, fathers, and children who have either supported or lost a loved one through the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Our heroes are the people that step up every day, whether on or off the battlefield and pay a price for this country's freedoms. We honor them through programs we offer ranging from decompression excursions to fielding requests from families in need. It is our duty and our pleasure to extend our helping hand wherever we possibly can.

Learn more about Heart of Valor via their website, [www.heartofvalor.org](http://www.heartofvalor.org). Donations are always welcome & appreciated. You can help them in their Mission by donating via their website as well.

Thank you, Samantha Kemp, for your help with this report.

Betsy

