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Comment from Harold Molbert on VA-2025-VACO-0001-0018

## **Submitter Information**

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## **General Comment**

I was wounded by a massive Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Afghanistan in JULY2006. Since then I have undergone 16 major surgeries such as spine, hip, leg, & foot surgeries; all of which were a direct result of my combat related injuries.

I've developed severe & debilitating PTSD, which makes me homebound and unable to care for myself. I take over 175MG of OxyContin & Oxycodone every day for my severe and chronic spine, hip, leg, & foot pain.

I can not bathe or clothe myself without the full time support of my wife.

Here is what infuriates me the most about this subject.

I never heard of the Care Giver program until my VA doctors strongly recommended to apply because my wife had already quit her teaching job just to take care of me. Even with a caregiver payments, my wife took a huge reduction in pay because she was forced to stop teach just so she could take care of me.

It's pathetic how the VA approved caregiver payments for veterans that never served in combat, nor were they would med in combat. One veteran I know plays golf three times a week, yet his wife collects the maximum amount as a paid caregiver by the VA.

My life will never be the same due to my injuries and my pain is so extreme at times, that I've come

extremely close to ending my life because I could not deal with my chronic pain and severe PTSD. I don't drive and I'm stuck at home 99% of the time and only leave for medical appointments.

My VA employees were all too happy and PROUD for approving my Caregive application, yet, 13 years later the VA wants to kick me off this program! I will NOT be able to pay my monthly bills without my wife being in the caregiver program.

I live in constant pain in my spine, rt leg, hip, & foot and all of my horrific conditions were all caused by my combat injuries.

I am BEGGING the VA not to kick me and my wife off the caregiver program.

Attached are pictures taken by the enemy when they blew up the bomb that nearly took my life, but killed my entire crew in the vehicle.

## **Attachments**

IMG 2409

IMG 2411

IMG 2410