

## **Sergeant JOHN MICHAEL PECK, USMC (Retired)**

Sergeant John Peck is originally from Antioch, IL. He enlisted in the Marine Corps and was injured during his first tour in Iraq in 2007. An IED Blast left him with hearing loss, vision and balance problems, and complete loss of short and long-term memory. Despite suffering from near-fatal traumatic brain injury (TBI), he slowly recovered and returned to full duty. He deployed for a second time to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, while serving with 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines Weapons Company. On May 24, 2010, Peck stepped on an IED while on patrol. At the age of 24, he endured amputation of both legs, part of one arm, severe injury to his second arm, and severe stomach injury. As a result of later complications, doctors ended up amputating part of his remaining arm. Sgt. Peck received treatment in Germany was later transferred to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.



John endured 27 different surgeries, where he flatlined three times and was officially pronounced dead once. In August 2014 John underwent a grueling 14-hour surgery to complete the first ever double arm transplant. He is currently undergoing additional treatment and recovery at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda. John is active with several organizations that assist wounded veterans and their families to include a group that provides all-terrain chairs to assist with mobility. John hopes to eventually pursue his dream to become a chef.