



My name is Gabe Palmer.

I was an E-4 in the US Army stationed in Fort Lewis Washington from 1986 to 1988. I was a Sr. Gunner on the Vulcan, a 20mm Air Defense cannon. I now work at Marshfield Clinic as a Medical Lab Technician. Sunday I got the opportunity to spend a couple hours with a couple veteran friends of mine as well as a couple boy scouts out at Council Grounds State Park. One of my veteran friends, Pat Meyers, has very limited mobility. However, thanks to a gentleman named Joe Ramsey, who was able to provide us with a tracked wheel chair through his service, Empowered Dream Hunts. Pat, along with his wife, Gloria, and the rest of us were able to take a few trails throughout the park and enjoy each other's company. We all had a few stories to share with each other. It was really great to enjoy each other's company while taking a trip

Through the beautiful Council Grounds park!!!

I am Corey Dornbrack,

I was an E-7 in the Wisconsin National Guard, where I had served 30 years between the National Guard and the Army as a mechanic. I did three tours to Iraq, and have been medically retired from the military. On Sunday, I arranged with Joe Ramsey, to have him bring a tracked wheel chair, through Empowered Dream Hunts, to Merrill at Council Ground National Park. He did this, so that Pat Meyers could spend some time out in the woods, like he had in years past where he would walk his dogs. I have known Pat all my life, being as he lived two houses down from my grandmother, where I had spent much of my time, and then became active with him in AMVETS. I asked Joe for the use of the tracked wheelchair because Pat had lost his legs from the knee down due to diabetes. This past year Pat had spent a lot of time in the hospital due to medical issues. I felt that being able to get him out in the woods like he had in the past would help raise his spirit. We met with a fellow veteran and two Boy Scouts. His wife and her daughter met us out there, without his knowledge of what was going to happen. We spent time with him being able to go through the woods, which he has not been able to do for years. We spent the afternoon telling stories and enjoying the wilderness and each other's company. After he figured out the controls, he was off remembering the days he had spent with his dogs and also when he had been a tank driver and commander. You could see his spirits and energy level rise throughout the day. I am glad that I was able to help a fellow veteran and friend, to find a lost joy back to his life.