

SSG ROBERT G. HENLINE (RET)

Motivational Speaker, Actor, Songwriter, Poet, Model, Professional Comedian



KEYNOTE: TEMPERED SPIRIT

- Before/after injury, outlook on life to include physical, mental, faith before and after injury
- IED explosion while serving in the Army in Iraq explained along with graphic photos of head, neck, and arm injuries, time to treatment, awakening from 2-week induced coma
- Long-term relationships with medical staff due to long recovery for burns
- Discussion of treatment for injuries, including interventions that worked well and those that did not
- Moral injury / survivor's guilt throughout healing process and beyond
- Living and thriving with a mental illness: post-traumatic stress, anxiety, panic attacks
- Suicide prevention and positive mental health
- The importance of support systems
- Quality of life: Overcoming adversity and the impact of helping others through the Bobby Henline Foundation and other activities

WEBSITE LINKS

- Healing Bobby - Red Border Films | TIME: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Aq5yst6aBM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aq5yst6aBM)
- ABC15News: 'I thought my life was over:' Iraq attack survivor expands foundation for SC veterans: <https://wpde.com/news/local/i-thought-my-life-was-over-iraq-attack-survivor-expands-foundation-for-sc-veterans>
- MIGHTY 25: Combat-wounded Bobby Henline uses comedy to heal the military community: <https://www.wearethemighty.com/articles/combat-wounded-veteran-uses-comedy/>
- The Huckabee Show: Wounded Veteran Teaches The “Burn Victim Wave” | Comedian Bobby Henline: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOxDKt6kzy0>
- Forging Forward, The Bobby Henline Foundation: <https://forgingforward.org/>
- Bobby Henline Comedy: [WellDone Comedian Bobby Henline - Home](#)
- Bravo748 Military and Law Enforcement Speakers: <https://bravo748speakers.com/>

BIO

Henline is a 4-tour Iraqi War Veteran, Retired Army Staff Sergeant, Purple Heart Warrior, last serving with the 82nd Airborne Division.

A veteran of Desert Storm by age 19, serving with 1st Cavalry Division, Henline was inspired to re-enlist in the Army after the attacks on America on September 11, 2001. He deployed to Iraq three more times, twice with the 82nd Airborne Division and once with the 3rd Armored Cavalry regiment. He spent 14 years in the Army.

While on his fourth tour in Iraq, three weeks after his arrival, an IED blast blew up his Humvee – April 7, 2007, is a day he will never forget. The four soldiers with him did not survive.

As Henline stumbled out of the wreck, a human torch, he was extinguished by the soldier he had replaced in the Humvee. With burns covering almost 40% of his body, fractured bones in his face, and his head burned to the skull, Henline was put into a medically induced coma for two weeks and flown back to the States.

During his initial six-month hospital stay, Bobby remained upbeat, positive, and relied on humor to get him through each day. Putting nurses in headlocks, trying to keep other wounded soldiers' spirits up by telling them jokes, his humor caught the attention of his occupational therapist. She challenged him to go to an open mic night and try his hand at comedy, making him promise with a pinky swear. He kept his promise, and that experience started a new chapter in his life.

Comedy is the salve that Bobby uses to keep his post-traumatic stress, anxiety, and panic attacks at bay, and allows him to share his story and healing with others using a positive, funny, inspirational approach.

Today, Henline continues his quest to make people laugh in a variety of venues as “The Well Done Comedian.” His professional comedy includes performances at *Brad Garrett's Comedy Club*, *Laugh Factory*, and *Hollywood Improv* to name a few.

Henline's story and lived experiences have been featured in film, print, and electronic media, including the documentaries [Healing Bobby](#), [Comedy Warriors: Healing Through Humor](#), and [Surviving Home](#). He has been featured on CNN, PBS KET, NPR, Today.com, and Time.com; Time Magazine, People Magazine, The Huffington Post, Guideposts, and Readers Digest; as well as television, radio, and podcasts from around the world.

His movie experience includes *Sophie and the Rising Sun*, *MBF: Man's Best Friend*, and more. He shares that his "15 seconds of fame" was playing Pyro Paulie in Showtime's hit series, *Shameless*.

His other experience includes modeling, writing poetry, and songwriting.

Henline and his wife Jamie co-founded Bravo748 Military and Law Enforcement Speakers Bureau, an organization that invests in Veterans and First Responders who are speakers and entertainers with a mission of giving back to their communities through their experience, training, stories, comedy, music, and more. He and Jamie also started a non-profit Forging Forward, The Bobby Henline Foundation, to create and host positive and meaningful experiences for active duty and veteran military and first responders, and their families, and Gold Star families.

As a Motivational Speaker/Inspirational Comedian, Henline is comfortable speaking with one person or 1,000's. He collaborates with and performs for organizations to inspire soldiers, veterans, first responders and their families, spreading his message of life, love, joy, and resilience; he visits middle and high schools across the country to inspire young people; and speaks at for profit and not-for-profit organizations sharing his story of resilience, hope, and healing.

A SAMPLE OF KEYNOTES AT ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

- CNO Financial Services
- Honor Flight Network
- Siouxland Freedom Park
- Armed Forces Benefits Association
- Mosaic Mining Company
- Peace Officers Research Association of California
- Southeast Mining Company
- Mess Night with TN National Guard
- Connect Community Village Fundraiser
- Array of Hope
- Adaptive Performance Center Fundraiser
- KY National Guard Association
- Southeastern Homicide Investigators Association
- Adanta Group Behavioral Health Services
- Can't Never Could Foundation
- National Institute of Oilseed Products
- Operation Mend
- American Airlines
- Veterans of Foreign War National Conference
- KY Child Abuse Prevention Conference
- Operation Immersion
- Wounded Warrior Weekend Canada
- 911 Tower Challenge Arizona

- USO Golf Tournament Georgia
- Ameriquail
- Fisher House Foundation
- Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC)
- KY School of Alcohol and Drugs Conference
- Gold Star Family Event Iowa
- Semper Fi Community Task Force of North Alabama
- 4th Annual Spirit of a Hero Gala
- Passion for Pigs Conference
- The Noles Group Casino Night Gala
- Lone Survivor Gala
- Feeding the Heroes Foundation
- Keltic Irons – Firemen of Athol, Massachusetts
- Texas Burn Conference
- Freedom Alliance
- Wounded Warrior Project
- US Probation District of Arizona
- Chris Kyle Foundation

A SAMPLE OF KEYNOTES AT EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- Monrovia Middle School
- Slippery Rock University
- Lindsey Wilson College Football Team
- Greensburg High School
- Adair County High School
- Pulaski County High School
- Taylor County High School
- Campbellsville High School
- Edythe J Hayes Middle School
- McCreary County High School
- Clinton County High School
- Russell County High School
- Casey County High School
- Green County High School
- Ellwood City School District

