

# Promotion



*From left to right: Bill Holden, Craig Remsburg, Cory Remsburg, Bob Vallaro, Will Wolfe, Chris Stason, Rick Orick, and Daniel Wake. Down in front: Leo, Cory's service dog.*

## Residential Fire Sprinklers Installed in Home for Wounded Warrior

By Bob Caputo, Telgian Corp.

**H**ow did you spend Veterans Day? If you've not heard of him, allow me to introduce you to Army Ranger Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Cory Remsburg, who was introduced to the entire nation during President Obama's 2014 State of the Union address.

Sgt. First Class Remsburg is the son of Telgian Corporation Executive Vice President of Human Resources, and retired fire chief, Craig Remsburg. Cory was very seriously wounded by an improvised explosive device while serving on his 10<sup>th</sup> deployment in Afghanistan. At the time of the explosion, Cory was thrown facedown into a waterfilled canal. He was rescued by his fellow Rangers and airlifted to Kandahar Air Base for triage, then to Bagram Air Field for surgery. Following surgery, Cory was transferred to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, followed by a transfer to Bethesda Naval Hospital October 16, 2009, and then to the James Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa, Florida, in November 2009. After three months in a coma,

multiple surgeries, and countless therapy sessions, Cory began his journey back.

In praising the 30-year-old Army Ranger during his speech, President Obama said, "Like the Army he loves, like the America he serves, SFC Cory Remsburg never gives up, and he does not quit." The President added, "Men and women like Cory remind us that America has never come easy."

Cory has been awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, the

Army Commendation Medal for valor, the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Good Conduct Medal with three oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with combat star, Iraq Campaign Medal with combat star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-commissioned officer professional development ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon.



On July 11, 2014, Jared Allen's Homes for Wounded Warriors hosted a remodel commencement ceremony at a recently purchased home, with plans to gut it to widen doors and create a new layout for the living and therapy spaces, but also adding a new section for the caretaker's quarters and a swimming pool, designed for Cory's special needs. "I first heard the incredible story of Sgt. First Class Cory Remsburg in 2013 and knew that he was someone we needed to assist," said Allen. Since then, JAH4WW has teamed up with Lead The Way Fund, Inc., (who purchased the home for Cory), and RIDE 430 Challenge powered by the Free Wheel Foundation, among others, to help raise money and complete the home remodel for Remsburg.

After meeting Cory and learning of the plans for his new home, members of the Telgian Family decided the house needed to have a residential fire sprinkler system. There was no shortage of nodding heads and no shortage of volunteers. Leading the charge, Quality Assurance Supervisor Donna Wilson volunteered to provide the design of the system during her "off-hours" in Atlanta. Russ Leavitt, Telgian's Chairman, agreed to absorb any plan review fees and offered as much help as needed.

I placed a call to Daniel Wake, Fire Protection Product Manager at Victaulic, to see if they'd be interested in donating the sprinkler heads for the project. I had a list of companies I thought might be willing to help out by donating additional materials, but Daniel insisted that Victaulic would coordinate everything we needed and no further calls would be necessary. What materials they couldn't get donated, Victaulic purchased for the job.

Of course, we thought that was great and I informed everyone that all we needed were some tools, ladders, and manpower. We coordinated the material delivery with Daniel, who then

informed us that three members of the Victaulic team would be joining us to install the system.

So bright and early Saturday morning, Daniel Wake showed up along with Chris Stason, Fire Protection Western Regional Manager, and Bob Varallo, Victaulic's Fire Protection Specialist for Arizona and Nevada, joining four members of the Telgian team: Bill Holden, EVP of Installation Service, Rick Orick, Project Foreman, Will Wolfe, Project Foreman (see group photo), and me to install the system. Not only did Chris and the Victaulic team provide materials and labor, they also provided lunch and refreshments after the day's work was completed.

As you might imagine, we were feeling pretty good about our efforts and our cause — as good as anyone feels after crawling around small attic spaces filled with insulation — but nothing compared to the honor we were paid when Craig pulled into the driveway with Cory and his service dog to inspect the work. After meeting and thanking everyone for the work on his behalf, Cory looked up and asked if all the piping was properly aligned — everyone's a comedian in this group!

So, I don't know how you spent your Veterans Day, but I spent mine with a great group of people doing something we all believe in, for a true American hero and patriot. Thanks to all who helped with this project and a special thanks to Jared Allen's Homes for Wounded Warriors and Rangers Lead the Way Fund for making this possible.

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