



National Disabled Veterans *Winter Sports Clinic*

Skier Profile

Ted Hubbard – A Three-War Veteran

There's a popular saying that would certainly apply to Army veteran Ted Hubbard. It goes like this: You can't keep a good man down. Hubbard, 82, served more than 30 years in the U.S. military and fought in three wars—WW II, Korea and two tours in Vietnam. Three separate combat injuries did not stop him from serving his country, and although he lost his eyesight more than a decade ago, that hasn't held him back from trying new adventures either. In 1997, Hubbard traveled from his home in Seattle, Wash., to Snowmass, Colo., to participate for the first time in the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. He loved it so much that he made it an annual expedition. Hubbard is ready to ski the Rockies once again this March.



"The Winter Sports Clinic is the greatest thing," said Hubbard. "It gives me hope. Because of this experience, I tell others not to hold back, regardless of their disability. There are people at the Clinic who will help them."

Hubbard is registered as a legally blind participant at the Clinic, but he has sustained other injuries as well. While on patrol in Korea, north of the 38th parallel, he was injured when the platoon he was leading ran into an ambush. "It was a pretty good firefight and seemed like it lasted for hours," said Hubbard, who was the platoon sergeant. After being shot in the right elbow, he was quickly patched up and jumped back in the fight. In amazing humility, he said, "We didn't lose a minute's work over it."

Later in Korea, Hubbard's platoon was ordered to take a hill after another platoon had already been wiped out trying to take it. The group of 19 soldiers, what was then left of the platoon, crossed a river and dug in for the night before attacking in the morning, following an artillery barrage that was not very effective. "Nine of us walked off that hill, and we were all wounded," Hubbard said. "We were pulling the rest of the platoon, who were dead." During that battle, Hubbard was wounded in the left hip.

The third time was the worst, when a mortar round hit a friend next to him. Hubbard was hit right in the abdomen and almost lost his right hand. He spent a year in a hospital recovering from his injuries. A true American hero, Hubbard continues to live a good life. Even among this year's extraordinary group of veterans participating in the 2009 National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic, Ted Hubbard remains an impressive example of honor and courage.

[Above information provided by veteran.]

Miracles on a Mountainside!

