



Volunteer of the Month

November 2017

Pete Raciti



Pete Raciti is the Buddy-to-Buddy November 2017 Volunteer of the Month! Pete describes himself as "the luckiest Marine alive" because of all of the opportunities he has had in his life, including the opportunity to serve other Veterans through B2B. He remembers seeing the poor treatment many Vietnam Veterans experienced upon returning stateside when he was in high school. Recognizing that type of treatment was unacceptable helped motivate him to serve other Veterans years later. "What I like the most is articulating to someone that there's help, and that we can help get them that help."

Pete served in the Marines from 1984-88, primarily as an aviation electronics technician on Huey and Cobra helicopters. After his

time serving, he completed a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing from Eastern Michigan University and spent 25 years working in the automotive industry. Five years ago, Pete started a security and safety company called Templar Life Safety with two friends. He is passionate about his work and describes it not as a job, but a calling.

Pete has been a Volunteer Veteran with Buddy-to-Buddy since 2010. He's now an "at-large" volunteer, assisting others in his local community, but prior to that he was assigned to the Michigan Army National Guard's Ypsilanti Armory for about five years. He's helped service members and Veterans with a range of concerns over the years, especially those needing assistance with housing and employment.

Like so many Buddy-to-Buddy Volunteers, Pete is humble about the many times he's gone above and beyond to help other Veterans, who he says he's "inspired by every day." Pete enjoys volunteering because he says it makes him feel like he's "continuing to give back to our great nation." In addition to his service with Buddy-to-Buddy, Pete is also involved with the Marine for Life Network, a program for Marines transitioning out of service that aids their career and life goals. In his spare time, he enjoys riding his motorcycle, reading, and going to the shooting range.

Thank you for your many years of terrific service, Pete!