

# Here's to the heroes: Treasure Coast Hospice, Watercrest honor vets

Thanks to a collaborative effort between Treasure Coast Hospice and Watercrest Senior Living in St. Lucie West, Veterans Day delivered an afternoon of acknowledgment, respect, honor and legions of gratitude for veterans residing at the facility and their guests.

Comfortably seated in a beautifully appointed social gathering space, attendees listened attentively as Watercrest Executive Director Bobi Kruemberg extended a warm welcome. It was quickly affirmed that this was a day for patriots and a celebration of those that fought for our freedoms as the ceremonial sounds of the bagpipe chimed and the Color Guard of the St. Lucie West Centennial Jr. ROTC marched into the room.

"Today, we recognize that our veterans have given something of themselves to this country. They've given their tears, their com-



From left, Watercrest's Bobi Kruemberg and WWII veteran Jack Rochester; Jeff White, TC Hospice CEO Jacki Kendrick and Danielle Alphonse; and St. Lucie West Centennial JROTC, Bryson Laurent, Ian Martens, Alex Yatsushkevich and Britney Smith.

fort, their hearts, their well-being, and some have given their all, laying down their lives to defend the freedoms we today are allowed to hold so dear," said Kruemberg. "Today, we get to remind the current generation that heroes are real."

As they sang along to the songs of their respective branches of service, the veterans reminisced about their days of glory, nights

of fear and loneliness, and the circumstances that returned them home.

"It is an honor to collaborate with our community partners to recognize veterans in our community," said Jackie Kendrick, Treasure Coast Hospice CEO. "Treasure Coast Hospice's We Honor Veterans program helps ensure that our nation's veterans receive the dignity, care and compassion they deserve."

Volunteers from Treasure Coast Hospice, in a show of due reverence, presented each veteran with a pin designed to pay tribute to their contributions and sacrifices made during military service. The Treasure Coast Hospice volunteers fastened the token to each veteran's collar, shook their hand, and presented a certificate recognizing their honorable service and bravery. ■ - CONTRIBUTED

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