



Wife attends husband's memorial thanks to volunteer pilots



Courtesy photo

Andre Bohy (right), president of Omni Financial, volunteered his time and personal aircraft to take Jessica McCloskey (left) to her husband's memorial service. Her husband, Sergeant First Class Shawn McCloskey, was killed in Afghanistan along with two of his team when their Humvee ran over an IED.

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Andre Bohy, who is president of Omni Financial, proudly volunteered his time and personal aircraft with Omni Financial paying for the fuel for this outbound mission. Thanks to this flight, McCloskey departed Tampa Executive Airport, Tampa, Fla. on July 21 for Key West International Airport, Key West, Fla. to attend a memorial service for her husband. At this service, members of her husband's dive team and their spouses, unveiled a plaque at the military dive school where they all worked so hard "to make the grade." This memorial service was arranged by Shawn's Dive Team to pay tribute for his drive, dedication and his ultimate sacrifice for his country.

Knowing just how few candidates successfully complete this dive school will one day allow McCloskey, now 28, to bring her two children, ages three and five, to

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Thanks to the Veterans Airlift Command (VAC) and its volunteer pilots from across the country, wounded military personnel, veterans and family who could not travel long distances on their own, are able to be airlifted for medical care or to be reunited with family and friends at significant life events.

The latest to benefit from this service is Jessica McCloskey, whose husband Sergeant First Class Shawn McCloskey and a member of the 7th Special Forces Group, perished along with two of his team in Afghanistan on Sept. 15,

this dive school to learn more about their father. To further honor her husband's memory, McCloskey set, and just achieved, her personal goal of becoming "dive certified."

After a few days in Key West, McCloskey will be flown back to Tampa Executive Airport, July 24, by another VAC volunteer pilot, Ken Kushner, thus completing another well deserved round trip Veterans Airlift Command mission. Bohy, a veteran of multiple VAC flights said, "Most people don't realize what service members and their families and friends go through. As a pilot I enjoy the satisfaction that comes with each of these flights."

For information on the Veterans Airlift Command and their volunteer air service, email them at info@veteransairlift.org. The Veterans Airlift Command provides free air transportation to Wounded Warriors, veterans and their families for medical and compassionate purposes through a national network of volunteer aircraft owners and pilots.