"Those we love can never be more than a thought away...for as long as there's a memory, they live in our hearts to stay." — Anonymous



# FAMILY NEWSLETTER

November 2023

# GROW



### Spend Friendsgiving with Your TAPS Family

TAPS Friendsgiving events are happening all over the country during November. Make plans to share a slice of pie and some quality time with fellow survivors near you. Whether you meet up for dessert and coffee, a fun outing, a traditional Thanksgiving meal, or you meet online, gratitude and community are the foundation of this month's events. Not sure what to expect? Read about **last year's Dallas-Fort Worth Friendsgiving**, then find an **event near you**.

**Read More and RSVP** 

# HEAL



## Gillette and the NFL Salute Service and Sacrifice with TAPS

We are honored to have the support of the NFL Salute to Service and Gillette behind our Military Mentor program. In addition to a \$250,000 donation to the program, TAPS Military Mentor Brian Smith and mentee, Dom D'Ambra IV, are featured in the campaign for the GilletteLabs Camo Razor. Historically, TAPS Military Mentors have stepped in to teach surviving sons who have lost their fathers to shave — one of the many powerful ways TAPS supports surviving children and teens.

**Keep Reading** 

# LEARN



### Even in Grief, We Are in Control of Our Attitudes

As grief reminds us, we cannot always control every aspect of our lives. We are, however, in charge of our attitudes. TAPS Youth Programs Senior Advisor Andy McNiel helps us keep gratitude in our attitude with helpful reminders for grieving children and adults alike.

**Find Inspiration** 

# REFLECT



15th Annual National Suicide Survivor Seminar & Good Grief Camp

Suicide-loss survivors gathered in Boston, Massachusetts, last month for a weekend of healing among TAPS staff, suicide pre- and postvention experts, grief and loss experts, and compassionate volunteers. Thank you for opening your hearts, and letting TAPS be a part of your healing journey. If you or someone you know is grieving a military-connected suicide loss, TAPS can help: taps.org/suicide.



Western Regional Military Survivor Seminar & Good Grief Camp

Our last regional seminar of the year was held in Long Beach, California, at the end of October. We are grateful that we saw so many of our TAPS Family members at seminars throughout 2023, and the hope and healing will continue in 2024. Check the events page at **taps.org/events** often for next year's seminar schedule.



### **Race Season with Team TAPS**

Team TAPS runners represented TAPS at the Army Ten Miler, Chicago Marathon, and Marine Corps Marathon in October. Each runner honored a fallen hero, carrying a legacy across the finish line and sharing the TAPS mission. To join Team TAPS or have your hero matched to an athlete, visit **taps.org/teamtaps**.

### PLAN



### Save the Date for the 30th Annual National Military Survivor Seminar & Good Grief Camp

Our national events will come together in 2024 for our 30th anniversary as we honor all on Memorial Day.

May 23 - 27, 2024 - Arlington, Virginia

#### Stay Tuned



#### 2024 NFL Pro Bowl Games

Do you know a TAPS child who loves football? Share your story with TAPS for a chance to attend the 2024 NFL Pro Bowl Games with teams4taps thanks to support from the NFL. This exciting teams4taps opportunity is designed especially for TAPS kids ages 7 to 18 and their families whose loss occurred more than three years ago. In partnership with the NFL, TAPS families will be hosted for five days and four nights of fun and meaningful experiences, including an NFL practice, the magic of the Disney parks, and the 2024 Pro Bowl Games at Camping World Stadium! Flights, lodging, tickets, and group meals for survivors will be provided through generous support from the NFL.





#### **Online Groups**

By Relationship, Peer Group, & Type of Loss

#### Find a Group



#### **Community Events**

TAPS Togethers, Care Groups, & Events Happening Nationwide, Year-Round

#### **Find an Event**



**Team TAPS Events** 

Honoring Loved Ones at Events Nationwide

Join the Team



**Young Adults Events** 

In-Person & Online Events Survivors Ages 18-30

**Find an Event** 



#### **Youth Programs**

In-Person & Online Events School-Aged Survivors and Parents

**Browse Events** 

## HONOR



### Honor Your Hero, Support TAPS through a Facebook Fundraiser

When you host a Facebook fundraiser for TAPS, you are not only raising funds that support fellow survivors and TAPS' healing programs. You are also sharing your loved one's story, and keeping their memory present as you share the TAPS mission. Click the button below to honor your hero on Facebook.

**Host a Fundraiser** 

Compassionate TAPS support is available 24/7 via our National Military Survivor Helpline: **800-959-TAPS** (8277).

