

June 28, 2022

*To: The Combat Control Foundation Board of Directors
From: Deb and Todd Bastian*

Dear CCT family,

First let me apologize by not getting this note to you right away. I was sidelined for a little while.

On May 13th, (Friday the 13th), Todd was driving the country roads to work. It was dark out and a very large coyote came out of nowhere. Thankfully, Todd was not injured but our little Chevy HHR was a total. Neither of us have ever owned a new car, and we were surprised to find that used were about the same these days as new. I posted on Facebook and emailed friends in search of a car. When Mike Lamonica contacted me, I asked him if he had a car to sell.

We had never heard about the CCT Foundation, and he explained it was only formed about a year ago. He then explained that the Board would like to make a contribution to our car. Both Mike and John talked to me about the work of the Foundation and reminded me that if Derek was here he would help us. After much persuasion and offering to let me help some with fundraising, we accepted the generous gift.

Since Derek's death in 2005, we have dedicated ourselves to raising funds for the children of the fallen. As you can imagine, it is very difficult to accept a gift. The accident came at a difficult financial time for us as we had many farm expenses this last year.

Words just can't express our gratitude to our CCT family and to the Foundation for the love, kindness and support you have shown us. Thank you all for turning around the Friday the 13th heartache into something positive for us. We look forward to thanking you all personally at the fundraiser. I am always blessed when I am given the opportunity to talk about Derek while helping to raise funds.

God Bless you all for the difference you are making in the lives of the CCT family. Thank you for making a difference in our lives.

With much love, Deb and Todd