

Ian Parkinson, P.

Military Service:

Ian served as an infantryman in the United States Army from April 2009 until May 2013. He served two overseas assignments. The first, a non-combat role, was a year long defensive mission in the Republic of Korea. And the second was a combat deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, beginning in the Spring of 2011. During the deployment to Afghanistan Ian was directly engaged with Taliban fighters on a routine basis. The most notable event that took place during this time was when an IED erupted beneath him, and instantaneously amputated both of his legs; for this Ian was awarded the Purple Heart. After roughly two years of physical rehabilitation, and re-learning to walk with the use of prosthesis, Ian was medically retired after four years of service at the rank of sergeant.

Education:

Ian is set to graduate from Arizona State University's Fulton School of Engineering with a B.S. degree in Graphic Information Technology (GIT) in December of 2017 with honors. The first year of schooling took place at Scottsdale Community College – where Ian first became acquainted with S.E.E.4 Vets. During his education, Ian gained first-hand perspective on the significance of the services that S.E.E.4 Vets provides/supports; a few of which are: the value of well maintained (and present) Veteran's centers, tutoring services in order to bridge the gap(s) in academic knowledge, and additional funds that remedy the costs that the G.I. Bill doesn't cover.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH):

Ian has been a member of MOPH (a non-profit organization whose aim is to “foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislation initiatives, and provide service to all veterans and their families”) since the fall of 2011, and took an active role with the organization in 2015. He currently holds the role of Department Inspector; one of ten officers at the state level. This position gives Ian direct contact with every MOPH chapter in the state of Arizona, and one vote at each semi-annual state meeting. Maintaining a strong relationship with MOPH will aid S.E.E.4 Vets in supporting the veteran communities across Arizona, and expanding support outside the state. In doing so, both S.E.E.4 Vets and MOPH will achieve their unifying goal of supporting our nation's veterans.

Role with S.E.E.4 Vets:

Since 2014, Ian has been a strong supporter and advocate for S.E.E.4 Vets. He has maintained a posture as a public figure for S.E.E.4 Vets in that he has: been a speaker at a number of the golf tournament fundraisers (both TPC & Wigwam), taken part in media projects to support the organization with CBS5 News, MCTV, and Gateway Community College, and helped take part in the Bottle Breacher fundraising campaign. Ian highly believes in both the mission of S.E.E.4 Vets, and how the organization is run, and so long as these two components are maintained with the integrity they have been, Ian will always be an active supporter of S.E.E.4 Vets.