



## Philadelphia Flyers Honoring Stockton's Veteran of the Year, Joseph Kerstetter

Egg Harbor Township, NJ Resident to be Honored at Game Nov. 14

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**Galloway Township, NJ** – Joseph Kerstetter, of Egg Harbor Township, NJ, former president of the Stockton Veteran Organization (SVO), will be honored as The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's Veteran of the Year during the Philadelphia Flyers game on **Friday, Nov. 14** at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia.

Kerstetter served in the Marine Corps for four years and two deployments - first in Iraq from July 2008 to February 2009, then in Afghanistan from March-October 2010. During his last two years, he was selected as one of four forward observers in his battalion. The job of a forward observer is to plot out the battlefield, providing precise calculations for where everything and everyone is located, providing air and artillery support with precise data on targeting and avoiding friendly fire.

Upon leaving the service and deciding to attend college, Kerstetter found Stockton. He determined that the college had the facilities and support best suited for him and became involved with Stockton's SVO. After becoming its president in 2012, he had the opportunity to enhance the lives of veterans at the college. Kerstetter was instrumental in the Office of Veteran Affairs adding a therapist who specializes in working with veterans. He also successfully advocated for a larger veterans lounge on campus, allowing the program to grow.

Stockton was recently recognized as one of the "Best Colleges for Veterans" by U.S. News & World Report, which ranked it as #15 out of the 49 schools in the Regional Universities of the North. Stockton's program, founded in 2008, serves over 400 veterans and service members.

Now a senior studying Social Work, Kerstetter has retired as SVO president. His recognition as SVO Veteran of the Year will take place at 7 p.m. during the Flyers' Nov. 14 game against the Blue Jackets. Tickets are available at [flyers.nhl.com](http://flyers.nhl.com).

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