



*Pictured L-R: NCOA President Paul Kingsbury, SSG Joshua P. Moehring, Ashley Davis, Command Sergeant Major Michael Crosby, Mr. Gino Montagno from USAA, the sponsor for the Army Vanguard Award, and NCOA Chairman of the Board Terry Haines.*

The 2021 NCOA Army Vanguard Award, sponsored by USAA, was presented to Staff Sergeant Joshua P. Moehring in honor and memory of Medal of Honor recipient Sergeant Alvin C. York.

Staff Sergeant Joshua P. Moehring distinguished himself by exemplifying selfless and heroic actions above and beyond the call of duty in the face of life threatening danger while assigned as a psyop sergeant to Bravo Company, 1st Psychological Operations Battalion (Airborne).

On 24 May 2020, SSG Moehring was boating with friends at Jordan Lake in North Carolina on Memorial Day when he heard a woman screaming for help from a nearby pontoon boat where a man was struck by the boat's propeller and in grave danger.

At that moment Moehring identified the injured man struggling to stay afloat in the water and immediately maneuvered his boat to the most advantageous position to rescue the severely injured man. Simultaneously, Moehring directed his two friends, Sergeant Erik Hansen, and Anthony Tensev, who were tubing behind his boat, to swim to the front of the boat to assist with the recovery of the drowning man.

As SSG Moehring approached the scene, the woman, leaving her boat unmanned, jumped in the water to rescue the man but was quickly overcome with exhaustion and began to pull the victim under water. Recognizing the severity of the situation, Staff

Sergeant Moehring immediately jumped into the water, grabbed the couple, and brought them safely to the front of his pontoon boat where he held them above water until Sergeant Hansen and Mr. Tensev arrived to assist with the recovery. Moehring and Mr. Tensev then recovered the casualty and immediately began rendering lifesaving aid. Moehring conducted an initial assessment of the man's injuries, identifying a deep laceration from thigh-to-shin, and applied towels and manual pressure to stop the bleeding.

SGT Hansen and Mr. Tensev continued to apply pressure on the man's wounds while SSG Moehring retrieved his on-board first aid kit. Moehring then began to assist SGT Hansen as he continued to treat the life threatening injuries. SSG Moehring, SGT Hansen, and Mr. Tensev applied a makeshift tourniquet to the man's right leg and continued to apply pressure until he was stable enough for transport to the nearest boat ramp. SSG Moehring called 911, provided vital information to emergency services, and directed them to the nearest link-up point. SGT Hansen and Mr. Tensev continued casualty care enroute.

At the link-up point, SSG Moehring was met by state law enforcement. He then jumped from his boat, grabbed the officer's first responder bag, secured a gen 4 tourniquet, and provided it to SGT Hansen to place above the makeshift tourniquet to the injured man's leg. All three men continued medical care on the board until the arrival of emergency services. The men carried the casualty from the boat to the ambulance and transferred care to EMS personnel where the man was transported to a local hospital to undergo immediate surgery saving his life.

Staff Sergeant Moehring's decisive actions reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Army.

