

Transition To Civilian Life Often Difficult For Veterans

Written by Palzewicz for Wisconsin, Chelsea Cross
Saturday, 12 September 2020 15:30 -



“Veterans don't want a special handout, but a hand up would be incredibly helpful,” says Congressional candidate Palzewicz.

Brookfield, WI – Regardless of where they serve, whether in combat or in peace, the transition back to civilian life can be a difficult and challenging process for military veterans. Democrat Tom Palzewicz, running for Wisconsin's Fifth Congressional District seat, is a U.S. Navy veteran and knows full well what veterans experience.

The military has a completely different pace than civilian life. Highly ordered and disciplined, the men and women in uniform adhere to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and they understand the need to maintain discipline in the ranks. The chain of command is essential to that discipline and military efficiency demands that all personnel pull in the same direction at the same time. Lives depend on that.

When a man and woman go from the disciplined life in the military to the “freedom” of civilian life, it is hard for them to make that change. In the military they may be highly-trained squad leaders, or division officers, all operating in a tightly controlled system. As a civilian, they are just another person, sometimes even marginalized or overlooked. The “thank you for your service” is replaced by having to take orders from someone with a fraction of their experience or expertise.

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