



# Eli's Fund

A Memorial for Lance Corporal Colton Rusk and Eli, his service dog

November 2015 – June 2016

Eli, a bomb-sniffing military working dog was assigned to US Lance Cpl. Colton Rusk. In December, 2010, Lance Cpl. Rusk was killed by sniper fire in Afghanistan. Eli, ever faithful to his handler was left depressed and alone. He would not leave Lance Cpl. Rusk's cot at the base for several weeks. In February 2011 Lance Cpl. Rusk's family in South Texas was allowed to adopt Eli. The Texas Veterinary Medical Foundation (College of Veterinary Medicine, CVM) has pledged to cover all of Eli's veterinary care for the rest of his life. The CVM established Eli's Fund as a source of financial support for active duty service men and women, medically retired veterans' service animals and retired military animals.

To read more about Lance Cpl. Rusk and Eli

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2014/05/140523-dogs-war-canines-handler-military-marine-labrador-afghanistan-family-mourn/>



## Goal: \$15,000

### How to Donate

- From November 2015 through Texas 4-H Roundup in June 2016, Texas 4-H Council challenges all 4-H members and families to financially donate to Eli's Fund.
  - 4-H clubs can collect donations, have a bake sale, a car wash or other event; the collected funds would then be donated online
- <http://vetmed.tamu.edu/giving/opportunities/elis-fund>
- The Moore Family from Corpus Christi, TX has made a \$5000 Eli's Fund Challenge Award available. These funds will be disbursed in the amount of \$2500, \$1500, and \$1000 respectively to the top 3 counties raising funds for this effort.

- Tell others about Eli's Fund and encourage them to donate.
- To track the donations made on behalf of Texas 4-H, in the *Additional comments or instructions* box of the online donation form include : **#Texas4H and your County**
- All donations go directly to the Texas A&M Foundation. A minimum \$25 donation is required.
- To GIVE NOW, you can scan the QR Code



regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status.

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