

# U-Haul, Team Members and Team U-Haul Cyclists Raise More Than \$100,000 for



◀ Shoen presents wounded warrior Jeremiah Pauley with a commemorative Soldier Ride gift.



▶ During the ceremony, U-Haul had the honor of gifting Erik and Devin Schei, two heroic wounded warrior brothers, a brand-new tandem recumbent bike.



▲ Participants of the Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride – Phoenix starting their ride from U-Haul House in Paradise Valley.

More than 700 U-Haul Team members, family and friends enthusiastically welcomed Soldier Ride and Team U-Haul cyclists to the 2011 Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride – Phoenix official landing ceremony. On Oct. 21, 2011, Soldier Ride and Team U-Haul cyclists began the Phoenix portion of the ride at U-Haul House in Paradise Valley, where Paradise Valley Mayor Scott LeMarr kicked off the ride and cycled with the warriors, before ending at U-Haul corporate headquarters in Phoenix.

In its seventh year of strongly supporting the Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride, U-Haul Team members and Team U-Haul cyclists raised more than \$100,000.



**WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT®**

## THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR WOUNDED WARRIORS!

For the second year in a row, the Honorable Jan Brewer, governor of Arizona, joined U-Haul in welcoming the wounded warriors to the state of Arizona. Remarks were also made by Councilman Vernon Parker, chief deputy and co-founder of the Wounded Warrior Project, Al Giordano, and executive director of the United War Veterans Council, Pat Gaulteri. Guests also had the privilege of meeting Kathryn Cross, Gold Star mother of Tyler J. Connely, U.S. Navy SEAL and law enforcement officer, killed on duty, Jan. 15, 2002 in Keflavik, Iceland.

Each of our guest speakers made a lasting impression on the veterans and everyone else in the audience.

Teaming up as emcees for the event this year were U-Haul Executive Vice President, Stuart Shoen and Military Recruiter/ Field Operations Recruiter Ed Custodio, U-Haul Human Resources. Shoen said he was thrilled to be a part of the U-Haul tribute honoring the warriors during the landing ceremony. As a U.S. Army veteran, First Sergeant Custodio's heartfelt remarks as a younger-generation veteran, who had "been there/done that," also had a huge impact on the wounded veterans.

On behalf of U-Haul International, and all of the freedom-loving Americans who joined in supporting the Wounded Warrior Project and Soldier Ride, Shoen and Custodio had the honor of presenting two heroic wounded warriors, Erik and Devin Schei, with a brand-new custom tandem recumbent bike. Erik and Devin, brothers who were both injured overseas, are true testaments to the outstanding sacrifice and service of these warriors. U-Haul hopes that the gifted tandem recumbent bike, paired with their incredible determination and desire to cycle, will help take Erik and Devin to the next level and allow them to continue cycling together when they return home.

The 2011 official landing ceremony saw the return of members of New York City's United We Sing, who performed several songs throughout the ceremony.

Soldier Ride continued its adventure the next morning with a community-pledge ride in Apache Junction, which allowed community members to join the ride and cycle alongside the wounded veterans.

A great time was had by all during the 2011 Wounded Warrior Project Soldier Ride – Phoenix. This year's ride was the experience of a lifetime and will not be forgotten.

▶ The Honorable Jan Brewer, governor of Arizona, addresses the warriors and guests at the ceremony after receiving her commemorative Soldier Ride gift.



◀ Paradise Valley Mayor Scott LeMarr was presented with a commemorative Soldier Ride gift before joining the warriors on the ride.



▲ Al Giordano, chief deputy and co-founder of the Wounded Warrior Project, presents U-Haul Executive Vice President Stuart Shoen with the American flag that traveled across the country on the first Soldier Ride U-Haul truck.



◀ United We Sing performs the national anthem to kick off the official landing ceremony.



▶ Shoen presents wounded warrior Ben Lunak with a commemorative Soldier Ride gift.



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THIS EVENT!  
IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT!**