

# The Man Behind The Chapter's Name

By Rego Barnett<sup>©</sup>

Many KWVA chapters are named after famous battles or well-known heroes in the Korean War. Ch 323, PO2 Taylor Morris, based in Cedar Rapids, IA, is an exception. It is named after a U.S. Navy veteran who is a rare surviving quadruple amputee. Morris is the grandson of chapter member Sid Morris.

Morris, an Explosive Ordnance Tech, was injured in Afghanistan in 2012 when he stepped on an IED. As a result, he lost both legs, his right hand, and most of his left arm. What he did not lose was his spirit—or his girl friend, Danielle Kelly.

The young man underwent a long recuperation period, with Danielle by his side. They danced at a wedding in Iowa only five months after he was wounded. The wedding marked the first time Taylor had been home since his injuries occurred.

Recently he came back to Cedar Rapids to visit at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Fort Dodge in Johnston, IA on September 13th, 2014. Was Danielle with him? You guessed it! She was there—along with a large group of his relatives, friends, and chapter members.

No wonder we have a KWVA chapter named after an Afghanistan War veteran.

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Taylor Morris and Danielle Kelly

Alvira Morris, Taylor's grandmother (R), shares a moment with him and Danielle Kelly



Iowa Gold Star Military Museum Director Sherrie Colbert presents a quilt to Danielle Kelly



Taylor Morris (L), Lowell Lein of Military Order of the Purple Heart (C), and Danielle Kelly



Left, Sid Morris of Ch 323 speaks at Iowa museum and right, Some Ch 323 members sprinkled among the crowd at Iowa gathering