

Dear Wounded Veterans Foundation,

I want to send my most sincere thanks for the tickets to “Weekend In The Country” this Sunday. I am a 21 year old Active Duty Veteran in the world’s greatest Navy. For the past few months I have been fighting an intense war against myself, struggling with severe depression and anxiety disorders. Things have been getting rough between the stresses of work and being away from my family as life changing events have been happening. Although tickets to a concert may not seem like much of anything, I cannot express how uplifting it was to receive them. It gives me a chance to get out of the house and spend time with friends and others who understand my situation, without breaking the bank. You have been a huge help and every little thing you do makes a difference. I may have only been in for three years but the impact that the Military has made on my life is immense. Wounded Veterans come in all different shapes and sizes, not all wounds are visible. All too often depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress and other mental disorders are looked at as a taboo topic, and all in our heads. It’s not, we have no control over what is going on in our own minds. I am hoping that sharing my story and continuing to get the foundation’s name out will help it grow and improve for years to come. You are doing amazing work and impacting so many lives. Thank you again for everything you are doing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria M. Payne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

CTN2(IDW) Victoria M. Payne
USN