



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on April 3, 2017

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## **The Goodness of America**

### **A Guardian Angel**

Sergeant Jon Sterling, a police officer in Erlanger, Kentucky, went above and beyond to help a Korean War veteran who needed a friend.

Sterling met Norm four years ago after Norm called the station to report suspicious activity. Over the years, the two would run into each other occasionally and chat, *Inside Edition* reported.

“Whenever I would see him, we would just stop and talk,” Sterling said. “He’s a very smart person. He has a very interesting view on history and politics. I just loved talking to him.”

At the end of February, Sterling noticed social workers at Norm’s house and stopped to check in that everything was okay. It was then that Sterling learned that Norm was diagnosed with early-onset dementia.

“He had lost a bunch of weight. It had been so long since I had seen him,” Sterling said. “His hair was as long as his beard. He really looked like he wasn’t taking care of himself. He literally had gotten smaller.”

Sterling learned that Norm had no close family members and, with the blessing of his wife and son, decided to take legal guardianship of him. “It doesn’t take any effort to care,” said Sterling. “Once Norm started down the road of not being able to take care of himself, it was the only logical step. You know, how could I not?”

As Norm’s guardian, Sterling was able to check him into a hospital, and his health dramatically improved within days. Sterling also applied for veteran benefits on Norm’s behalf. With access to Norm’s health and bank records, Sterling was able to determine a care program for Norm, including a retirement home.

According to Sterling, Norm’s Social Security benefits and veteran benefits will enable him to get the care that he needs, but he needed \$5,500 to “get him in the door.” Sterling set up a GoFundMe page to help raise the money for Norm’s medical needs, and in just one day he raised all the money he needed and more.

Norm is now set up in a retirement home where he will get the round-the-clock care that he needs.

### **An Unexpected Offer**

Todd Steinkamp was traveling from Iowa to a funeral in De Pere, Wisconsin, on February 21 when his car broke down, forcing him to stop at the nearest repair shop, where he learned that his vehicle would not make it the rest of the way. Thankfully for Steinkamp, the mechanic, Glenn Geib, had a good heart.

Geib took a look at Steinkamp’s vehicle and discovered that he had bad bearings, and though the vehicle could be repaired, it would not be done in time for Steinkamp to make it to the funeral in time. But with 70 miles to go in the trip, it was clear the vehicle would not be able to get him there either. Steinkamp’s face must have revealed the disappointment he felt, because in the very next instant, Geib reached into his own pocket, took out his keys, and offered Steinkamp his own car, the *Des Moines Register* reported.



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“I must have looked pretty stressed-out at this time because Glenn then reached into his pocket, pulled out the keys to HIS own vehicle and said “Take my truck. Fill it up with gas, don’t turn on the emergency lights and get going,”” wrote Todd on Facebook.

The *Waushara Argus* noted that Geib knew Steinkamp had no options, as the nearest rental car place was 40 minutes away.

Thanks to Geib’s generosity, Steinkamp was able to make it to the funeral. When he returned the vehicle, he and Geib talked for hours and they got to know each other. “We sat and talked for a while when I got back as I thanked him and he told me more about himself. The 74-year-old mechanic with a grip of steel turned a terrible day into a good one with a great lesson — ‘just be kind and help if you can.’”

## **Goodness Begets Goodness**

Bruno Serato of Anaheim, California, has dedicated his life to feeding the poorer children of his community at the local Boys and Girls Club. But when disaster struck, Serato feared that he would be unable to continue this mission. Fortunately for him, his good deeds had not gone unnoticed, and the local community immediately reached out to offer its assistance.

Serato ran his own restaurant, The White House of Anaheim, and used the money he made to serve gourmet Italian meals to the children. He created Caterina’s Club, named in honor of his mother, through which he delivered hearty meals to local children. And even when he was spending more money to fund the project than he was taking in, he refinanced his home to ensure that he could continue to feed the children.

“Feeding a child should be a priority for anyone. But sometimes all they get is junk food from a vending machine. And that isn’t dinner,” he said. “I can’t go to sleep unless I’ve done everything I can to feed a hungry child for the day.”

Unfortunately, his restaurant burned down from an electrical fire on February 4, leaving him without income and, therefore, without the ability to feed the local children. “This fire destroyed everything I’ve worked for [for] 30 years. And it’s like, we need to find a kitchen somewhere because we need to do the pasta for the children,” Bruno said.

But the community reached out to Serato, offering him kind words, money, and the culinary resources necessary to continue to prepare meals for the children of the Boys and Girls Club.

According to CBS News, local establishments offered their kitchens so that Serato could cook meals for the kids. One such establishment is the Highway 39 Event Center. “He can stay here as long as he wants, or until he finds something permanent,” said Michael Keener, the director of operations at Highway 39. “He takes such good care of the kids. When the fire happened, I think he was worried more about the kids than the restaurant.”

Additionally, a GoFundMe page was set up to help Serato rebuild his restaurant. According to the page, Serato’s fire insurance is not enough to “adequately cover the rebuild nor help his employees or charitable works.”

As of March 2, the page had raised nearly \$170,000 of its \$350,000 goal.

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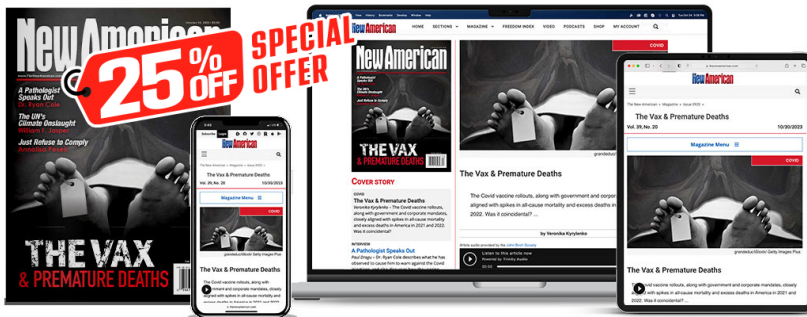
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