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A House Becomes a Home

Hardin Construction completes its 2nd Homes for Our Troops home-build, as Veterans Day “key ceremony” unlocks home-ownership for wounded veteran

SAN ANTONIO, TX (November 11, 2011) — The hum of construction gave way to expressions of gratitude and goodwill as Hardin Construction Company joined a Veterans Day “key ceremony” officially turning over a *Homes for Our Troops* home to the Marion, Texas family of wounded veteran U.S. Army Specialist (SPC) Craig Andrade.

“I appreciate this so much, and I know my wife and kids will enjoy this immensely,” said SPC Andrade. “Thank you very, very much.”

Hardin Construction orchestrated the 71-day community home-build that produced the 2,645-square-foot, four-bedroom home specially equipped with wider doorways and hallways, roll-in showers, and other features to accommodate SPC Andrade. He suffered severe injuries, including the loss of both legs above the knees and a burst eardrum, when his platoon was hit with the blast of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on patrol near Baghdad, Iraq in 2005.

Project #2

“Hardin was humbled by the opportunity we had here to lead a project benefitting this young serviceman and his family,” said Hardin Executive Vice President Steve Rivers said at the ceremony. “We’re ready to do it all over again.”

The Marion, Texas project marked the second time within a year that Hardin Construction oversaw a *Homes for Our Troops* community home-build. In Hinesville, Georgia early in 2011, Hardin led a build brigade constructing a home for Army Staff Sergeant Jason Letterman and his family.

“The service that the young women and men of the armed forces give to our country is more than deserving of the time and resources we invest to ensure that they and their families are well cared for,”

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said Rivers. “What an honor it has been working with the Marion community and teaming up the *Homes for Our Troops* organization.”

The Marion home-build involved 30 Hardin associates, 40 vendors, subcontractors and suppliers and their crafts people, as well Marion area volunteers. All told, volunteers contributed more than 8,000 work hours.

Hardin joined a host of military and political dignitaries for the Veterans Day ceremony welcoming SPC Andrade’s family—including his wife, Danielle, and their three children, Christian, 5, Isabella, 3, and Donovan, 11 months—into their new home in the town where Andrade grew up.

Homes for Our Troops is a national, non-profit, 501 (c) (3) organization whose mission is to build specially adapted homes for service members who have been severely injured in combat operations since September 11, 2001. The homes are provided at no cost to the veterans thanks to grants, sponsorships, donations and generous support from community volunteers.

ABOUT HARDIN CONSTRUCTION:

Celebrating 65 years of excellence, Hardin Construction Company, LLC is one of the nation’s leading construction services firms, providing unequalled expertise for projects of broad scope and complexity through its culture of integrity, innovation and opportunity. With capabilities in general construction, construction management, design-build and renovation, Hardin is a leader in green building and sustainable practices and is recognized nationally for their safety practices. Privately-held, Hardin’s headquarters is in Atlanta, Ga., with offices in Tampa, Fla., Orlando, Fla., Raleigh, N.C., and Austin, Texas. For more information, visit www.hardinconstruction.com.

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