

A Portrait of a Woodchuck Client

You may wonder, “Who receives firewood from the Woodchucks?” Here is a sketch of a typical client.

“John” was born in Salem, raised in Floyd County, and graduated from Glenvar High School. He currently lives in eastern Montgomery County, in a small home on which he has a mortgage. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the US Army, where he participated in the Fort Bliss Rifle Team as a sharpshooter, entrusted with maintaining M16 competency among military personnel. After a two-year stint in Germany, John received an honorable discharge, and returned to civilian life. He married, had a son, and adopted a daughter. He did construction work until he sustained a severe back injury requiring four surgeries. He continued to work in the security field until he was forced to go on disability.

His parents are deceased and he is estranged from his sister and son. He lives alone and deals with significant health problems. Nonetheless, his spirits are good. He always calls to thank us for firewood deliveries, which he has been receiving for five years and considers a great blessing. He promises that someday, when he can, he will pay us back.

To John we say, “You already have, friend.”