

Kerry Lee,

I would like to nominate myself and my fiancée Dominique. We have been together for over 4 years now and we have been long distance for 2 and half years. I met her while stationed in Arizona for the Airforce. After I got out, I decided I needed to move back to California where my older brother and parents live. My mom had just finished chemotherapy for breast cancer and I was unable to be with her during those hard times due to my commitment to the Airforce. Dominique was by my side the entire time my mom was at home fighting breast cancer. She let me cry without being judged and gave me a shoulder to lean when I felt so helpless being so far from my mom. And all of this happened within the first 6 months of our relationship. During those times I knew she was the one I wanted to marry but I was not financially ready to purchase a ring good enough for her nor was I stable enough for her to move to California, I was living with my parents at the time and unsure what I wanted to do with my life. After much debating, I joined the Air National Guard and went back to doing what I was used to. During the large fires in August of 2008, the Air National Guard was called in to assist with putting out the fires and I was among the ones who were sent out there. While fighting the fires I found a profession that I could really enjoy and decided to look into becoming a Wildland Firefighter. I started with the Forest Service in December of 2008 and even though my job is very dangerous I have always had her support in all my decisions. I want to give her the wedding she deserves. Our families cannot afford to contribute to a wedding for us at this time and I would just like to be able to have the people closest to us share in our excitement and joy the day we become husband and wife. We both would be excited to win this package and we would be so thankful.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paul L.