

NEWS RELEASE



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WWII TUSKEGEE AIRMAN REALIZES DREAM OF ATTENDING A FALCONS GAME

Atlanta Falcons and Verizon Wireless Teamed Up with Second Wind Dreams and Arbor Terrace to Help Local Veteran Watch His Favorite Team in Person for the First Time; Falcons and Verizon Honored Him on Field During Game

ALPHARETTA, GA – [Verizon Wireless](#) and the [Atlanta Falcons](#) teamed up yesterday with international nonprofit [Second Wind Dreams](#)® and [Arbor Terrace at Cascade](#) to help Mr. Edward Johnson, 98, realize a lifelong dream of watching an Atlanta Falcons football game in person. Johnson, a Tuskegee Airman veteran, was honored in front of the Georgia Dome's crowd during Sunday's game against the Cleveland Browns as part of the football organization's military appreciation efforts.

Additionally, Verizon Wireless presented a \$15,000 HopeLine donation to Shepherd's Men in his honor. The grant will support the Shepherd's Center Foundation's [military initiatives](#), helping veterans affected by Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Since the launch of the HopeLine phone recycling program in 2001, [HopeLine from Verizon](#) has collected more than 10.8 million phones, given out more than \$21.4 million in cash grants, and distributed more than 180,000 phones for use by domestic violence survivors.

“The generosity demonstrated by the Atlanta Falcons and Verizon Wireless to make Mr. Johnson’s dream of attending a football game come true shows faith in the human spirit. We are happy to be a part of this special moment for such a special person,” says PK Beville, Founder and CEO of Second Wind Dreams. Second Wind Dreams is an Atlanta-based international, nonprofit organization founded in 1997. The organization works to change the perception of aging through the fulfillment of dreams for elderly citizens.

[Johnson](#) is a retired member of the [Tuskegee Airmen](#) who served in World War II and trained pilots how to fly using instrumentation. After the war, Johnson became the first African American master electrician in Atlanta. In 1947 he started his own business, Johnson and Wood Electric Company, in partnership with a fellow Tuskegee graduate, which served as a training ground for young black electricians. Upon retirement he continued working on projects including the wiring of the MARTA train stations and at the Clark Atlanta University power plant. Today he resides at Arbor Terrace of Cascade. Managed by The Arbor Company, the residence is a premier assisted living and memory care community dedicated to engaging and enriching the health and spirit of its residents.

“We are thrilled to be able to be a part of Mr. Johnson’s dream fulfillment and to support the efforts of the Shepherd’s Men to help Georgia’s families affected by military trauma. We have a long standing commitment to helping our country’s veterans and their service will never be forgotten. A big thanks to our partners in this effort, the Atlanta Falcons, for helping us make this happen,” said Jonathan LeCompte, president – Georgia/Alabama Region, Verizon Wireless.

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About Verizon Wireless

Verizon Wireless operates the nation’s largest and most reliable 4G LTE network. As the largest wireless company in the U.S., Verizon Wireless serves 106.2 million retail customers, including 100.1million retail postpaid customers. Verizon Wireless is wholly owned by Verizon Communications Inc. (NYSE, Nasdaq: VZ). For more information, visit www.verizonwireless.com. For the latest news and updates about Verizon Wireless, visit our News Center at <http://www.verizonwireless.com/news> or follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/VZWNews>.

About Second Wind Dreams

Second Wind Dreams is an international, nonprofit organization founded in 1997. This

organization is changing the perception of aging through the fulfillment of dreams and educational programs including its flagship program, The Virtual Dementia Tour®. The Atlanta-based organization has fulfilled more than 10,000 dreams with help from its sponsors. For more information go to www.secondwind.org.

About The Arbor Company

The Arbor Company is an Atlanta-based operator of more than 20 independent living, assisted living and memory care communities, serving seniors in nine states. With nearly 30 years of dedication and experience, The Arbor Company strives to deliver the highest quality care and service to residents and their families. The company's innovative Engaged Living program creates meaningful moments through structured activity programs and spontaneous interactions, filling each day with the right balance of purpose, meaning and fun. More information about The Arbor Company is available at <http://www.arborcompany.com>.