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Contact: Sam Kolodny Old Town Media, Inc. samantha@oldtownmediainc.com (970) 692-4617

Rancho Sahuarita Continues Commitment to Creating a Better Life for Military Families in the Community

Sahuarita, Arizona - November 15, 2022 – Since 2013, <u>Meritage Homes</u> has been partnering with <u>Operation Homefront</u> to build new, mortgage-free homes for military families as part of the organization's <u>Permanent Homes for Veterans</u> program. This year three families will receive homes, and one of the recipients, Army Sgt. Charles Haney, will be planting his family's roots in the military-friendly community of Rancho Sahuarita.

Sgt. Haney, who medically retired from the military in 2009 after five years of service including a deployment to Iraq, and his family received a brand new, energy-efficient home in the Entrada <u>Del Rio</u> neighborhood of Rancho Sahuarita. An official key ceremony was held to welcome the family home, and included special remarks from Phillippe Lord, Chief Executive Officer, Meritage Homes; Andre Hawkins, Chief Financial Officer, Operation Homefront; Jeff Grobstein, Meritage Division President; Elliot Mann, Meritage West Region President; Mayor Tom Murphy of Sahuarita and Jeremy Sharpe, Managing Partner of Rancho Sahuarita.

"I'm proud to have served in the military. It's wonderful to see organizations like Operation Homefront and builders like Meritage recognizing veterans and their families," said Haney. "This home means so much to me and my family. It will help ensure my children have the opportunity at a better life and brighter future."

"We are so excited to welcome the Haney family to the Rancho Sahuarita community. Rancho Sahuarita was founded on the vision of being a place for families to create a better life, and we are so thrilled that we can welcome such a deserving family to our community, and hope they will be able to do just that," said Jeremy Sharpe, Managing Partner of Rancho Sahuarita.

Mayor Tom Murphy also commented: "Being a veteran myself, it is such an honor to have Sgt. Haney and his family join our community, and makes it extra special. We are so grateful for their service, and it is a privilege to be able to welcome them home." Rancho Sahuarita has been a proponent of military families since its founding as a community and makes military families a priority by planning events that honor veterans and active-duty residents.

"At the heart of Rancho Sahuarita is a community of residents, making a life for themselves and their families and living that life to the fullest. Many of our community members have ties with the Armed Forces and some have family members that have made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can do just that. At Rancho Sahuarita, we honor that and strive to find new ways to recognize and show appreciation to veterans throughout our community," said Jeremy Sharpe, Managing Partner at Rancho Sahuarita.

One of the ways that Rancho Sahuarita has shown its support for military families is through its Parque Del Rio Armed Forces Tribute, created to honor military families, veterans, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. The Armed Forces Tribute is dedicated to each branch of the Armed Forces; the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Marines, and the Coast Guard, and the community regularly hosts military-related events for residents to participate in.

Additionally, Rancho Sahuarita hosts regular veteran-centered events, such as "Coffee with a Vet", a Veterans Day Ceremony and the Sunrise Remembrance ceremony held each Memorial Day to bring together residents for a morning of tribute for all who have made the ultimate sacrifice, including the playing of Taps, a brief benediction, and the placement of a Memorial Wreath.

About Rancho Sahuarita

Rancho Sahuarita is located within the municipal boundaries of Sahuarita, Arizona, just 9 miles south of Tucson. A master-planned community of more than 18,000 residents, Rancho Sahuarita has gained consistent national recognition as one of the top master plans in the country and is one of Arizona's fastest-growing communities.

To learn more about Rancho Sahuarita and how you can become part of this amazing community, visit <u>ranchosahuarita.com</u> or call (520) 207-7730.

About Meritage Homes Corporation:

Meritage Homes is the seventh-largest public homebuilder in the United States, based on homes closed in 2021. The Company offers a variety of homes that are designed with a focus on entry-level and first-move-up buyers. Operations span across Arizona, California, Colorado, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Utah.

Meritage Homes has delivered over 155,000 homes in its 36-year history and has a reputation for its distinctive style, quality construction, and award-winning customer experience. The Company is the industry leader in energy-efficient homebuilding and a nine-time recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year for Sustained Excellence Award since 2013 for innovation and industry leadership in energy-efficient

homebuilding, and the recipient of the EPA Indoor airPLUS Leader Award. For more information, visit <u>www.meritagehomes.com</u>.

About Operation Homefront:

Celebrating 20 years of serving America's military families, Operation Homefront is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to build strong, stable, and secure military families so that they can thrive – not simply struggle to get by – in the communities they have worked so hard to protect. Recognized for superior performance by leading independent charity oversight groups, 88 percent of Operation Homefront expenditures go directly to programs that support tens of thousands of military families each year. Operation Homefront provides critical financial assistance, transitional and permanent housing, and family support services to prevent short-term needs from turning into chronic, long-term struggles. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the support from thousands of volunteers, Operation Homefront proudly serves America's military families. For more information, visit <u>OperationHomefront.org</u>.



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