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Pythians Helping People

Alpha-Genesis Sunshine Foundation of Genesis Lodge #64 helps Marine Get New Limbs.

Six years ago, Marine Sgt. John Peck had all four of his limbs blown off by an explosion in Afghanistan. Today, thanks to a double arm transplant, he is talking about the miracle of holding his fiancée's hand and feeling the pressure when she squeezes.

"That truly is a special gift," the retired Marine told reporters at a news conference at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

Peck, 31, underwent a [14-hour surgery](#) in August, performed by a team of 60 doctors, nurses and other medical personnel led by Dr. Simon Talbot, the hospital's director of upper extremity transplantation. Talbot said it will be nine to 12 months before the nerves in Peck's new arms are fully functional again. Still, Peck said he can lift his arms and is relearning to brush his teeth, dress and feed himself. His goal is to achieve the dream he's had since he was a boy: to become a world-class chef.

Peck's remarkable story was detailed in [The Washington Post](#). In May 2010, he lost his limbs to an improvised explosive device during a search mission in a small village in Afghanistan's Helmand province.

Since 2010, the Alpha-Genesis Sunshine Foundation has made two separate donations to the fund to replace this marine's arms.

Alpha-Genesis Sunshine Foundation is a private charity foundation affiliated with Genesis Lodge.