

# Public Service



**BILL CARLSON**  
North Carolina State  
University,  
Materials Support  
Warehouse

Bill Carlson is a program manager at North Carolina State University's Materials Support Warehouse. In his role, Carlson oversees shipping and receiving, warehouse operations and surplus property disposition. Yet, it is his service outside of work hours that is truly remarkable.

As a veteran of the United States Air Force, Carlson knows the significant toll repeated deployments can take on military members and their families. Post-traumatic stress and various difficulties with acclimating to life after returning from deployment are common among service members, especially those who have served multiple deployments.

Familiar with the devastating mental health challenges experienced by some members of the military community, Carlson was driven to support his fellow service members. He became involved with Support U.S. Armed Forces (SUSAF), a Raleigh-based nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting military service members and their families, and in 2009, he became the organization's executive director.

Through his work with SUSAF, Carlson and his wife, Crystal Carlson, organize an annual marriage retreat designed to support military couples in a safe and engaging environment. During these retreats, Carlson has helped couples learn or relearn how to communicate their thoughts and feelings without fear after being apart for long periods of time. Couples leave the retreat feeling rejuvenated in their commitment to one another and equipped with the skills needed to overcome the distance deployment can create. Carlson also spearheaded SUSAF's Lights of Gratitude program, which delivered beautifully decorated, fully lit Christmas trees to brighten the holiday season for 20 deserving military families in its inaugural year in 2022.



Bill Carlson's commitment, not just to military service members, but also to their families, is selfless and inspiring. He dedicates countless hours to supporting this invaluable community through fundraising, volunteer coordination, and program execution. The State of North Carolina thanks him for this service.