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Royal Oaks Building Group President Named Builder of the Year



Rich Van Tassel

**Rich Van Tassel Honored
For Leadership Of
"Operation: Coming
Home" By Home Builders
Association Of Raleigh-
Wake County**

County (HBA). The award was presented at the HBA's annual Holiday Celebration and Officer Installation Gala held on Dec. 2 at Embassy Suites in Cary, N.C. Van Tassel received Builder of the Year award with Don Mead, president of Atrius Homes and Communities, Raleigh Division, for their joint leadership and energy behind the first "Operation: Coming Home" project, which provides free housing in the Raleigh-Durham area to severely wounded veterans of recent Middle East wars.

Under the guidance of Van Tassel and Mead, members of the HBA and the Triangle Real Estate and Construction Veterans (TREACV) built a custom home free of charge for Joey Bozik, a war veteran who was severely injured

To help make everyday life easier for Joey, a triple amputee, and his pregnant wife, Jayme Bozik, the new home offers a number of special features, including a microwave and refrigerator in easy-access drawers, a modified stove and kitchen sink, and heated floors. The Boziks moved into their new home on Oct. 27, the fourth anniversary of "Joey's Alive Day," named in honor of the day when he awoke from his coma and knew he would survive his injuries. Additional information on "Operation: Coming Home" may be found at www.operationcominghome.com.

The HBA awards its Builder of the Year honors annually to a Wake County member who is judged to have gone above and beyond call of

"I thank members of the HBA for this honor," said Van Tassel. "I would be remiss if I did not note the contributions of Don, with whom I share this award, and many other hardworking HBA members into making this project a reality. This is the kind of project that makes me proud to be a homebuilder, particularly in the Triangle. 'Operation: Coming Home' is a deserving program that will assist our disabled soldiers greatly, and I am so happy that we

RALEIGH, N.C. — Royal Oaks Building Group, LLC (www.royaloaksbg.com), has announced that its president, Rich Van Tassel, received the Builder of the Year honor from the Home Builders Association of Raleigh-Wake

County by a roadside bomb in Iraq in 2004, at Southern Oaks, a Royal Oaks community located in Fuquay-Varina, N.C. The groundbreaking took place on May 30, 2008 and workers finished construction on Sept. 20.

duty in the HBA during the current year. The winning builder must be a member of the HBA. Van Tassel and his company have been HBA members since 2000, when Royal Oaks began operations.

as local home builders have made a difference in making life a little easier for one of our valiant war veterans and his family.”