

## **Richard Kent Bio    Starfish Foundation Board Nominee**

As a combat-disabled United States Marine Corps Veteran, I know the quiet that settles in after the homecoming crowds are gone. I've carried wounds that don't show on the outside and grief that no ribbon or commendation can balance. Those years taught me something I still hold close: healing is real, and it's worth every bit of effort we give it.

After the Corps, I found new missions in supply chain and operations leadership. I've been fortunate to work with outstanding teams at Sierra Space and GE Aerospace, helping deliver mission-critical hardware for programs that reach for the stars. The discipline and focus I learned in uniform translated into building stronger systems, negotiating better outcomes, and keeping complex projects on track—often saving millions along the way. Closer to home, I also founded a real estate company whose primary purpose is to help Veterans and their families turn military benefits into stable homes and generational wealth.

All of that success taught me a simple truth: a stable career and a good home can steady a life, but only true emotional healing can bring back the light.

That's why I asked to serve on this board. I've walked far enough down the road of recovery to know how life-changing the right support can be—for Veterans carrying the weight of service, for survivors of sexual abuse, and for anyone whose heart has been broken open by trauma. I want every person this foundation touches to find the same safe, life-giving space where pain softens, grief finds a voice, and joy becomes possible again. I've been given more second chances than I deserve, and now I want to help make sure those second chances reach everyone who needs them.

I needed help once. Today I get to help make sure no one who served has to walk this path alone.

Semper Fi.