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WP Rawl honors veterans this holiday season

WP Rawl, a premier grower, processor and shipper of leafy greens, honored fallen military heroes by participating in Wreaths Across America Day this December.

WP Rawl's dedicated truck and trailer traveled from Pelion, SC, to Columbia Falls, ME, to pick up thousands of fresh evergreen wreaths to be placed on the headstones of veterans — a symbol used for centuries to recognize and honor the fallen.

Each year National Wreaths Across America Day takes place in over 1,600 locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad continuing the tradition by participating in annual wreath-laying ceremonies.

For the first time in five years of participating, the company picked up wreaths for two national cemeteries in its home state of South Carolina. Over 28,500 wreaths were delivered to Fort Jackson and Beaufort National Cemetery for the headstones of the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Beaufort National Cemetery held a parade on Saturday, Dec. 19 where trucks were escorted into the cemetery with a crowd of cheering volunteers. WP Rawl driver and Army veteran Craig Ruff had the honor of delivering both loads of wreaths. "It was an honor as a peace time veteran to retrieve a load of wreaths from Maine and then to deliver them to the two national cemeteries," said Ruff. "It was a humbling experience and great joy meeting all of the folks that want to honor our military heroes. I am grateful for WP Rawl for giving me the opportunity as an employee and veteran. Thank you! I am packed and ready for next year!"

"In a year of so many uncertainties, we were happy to be able to continue the tradition of supporting Wreaths Across America," said Ashley Rawl, vice president of sales, marketing and product development. "What better way to support our local heroes then by showing our thanks to the many men and woman who are to thank for the many freedoms we have today."

WP Rawl has supported the Wreaths Across America organization throughout the years by donating services, sponsoring wreaths and sending employees who volunteered to lay wreaths on fallen veterans' graves.