



*L-R NCOA President Vincent Patton, HM2 Axel A. Wong, Amanda Perry (Wong), FLTCM Wesley Koshoffer, MSgt (Ret) Michael Grabow (NCOA JROTC Program), and NCOA Chairman of the Board Terry Haines.*

The NCOA Navy Vanguard Award is presented in honor and recognition of Medal of Honor recipient Machinist Mate First Class Robert R. Scott. The recipient of the 2019 NCOA Navy Vanguard Award, sponsored by the NCOA Junior ROTC Program, is Hospital Corpsman Second Class Axel A. Wong

Hospital Corpsman Second Class Axel A. Wong distinguished himself by his significant actions on 16 March 2018. While off-duty and driving down Highway 62 in Morongo Valley in San Bernardino County, he witnessed a rollover vehicle accident. Petty Officer Wong pulled his vehicle over to assist and discovered the car partially in flames. With the assistance of fifteen other witnesses on scene, Wong opened the doors and pulled two victims out of the car, moving them to safety.

He performed a head to toe assessment of the adult victim while a nurse bystander attended to the child. He quickly assessed the patient's injuries and treated them accordingly. He reported a fractured left humerus, venous bleeding from the lacerations on the left thigh, possible fractured left femur, dislocated right elbow, and several moderate facial injuries. He detected that the victim was going into hypovolemic shock so he immediately elevated the lower extremities, provided a blanket for warmth, and kept a constant observation on the victim's slow and steady pulse. He stabilized the patient's fractures with structural aluminum malleable splints and treated the bleeding with pressure dressings, utilizing his combat life saver bag and the California Highway Patrol's emergency medicine bag.

He assisted in extricating the passengers and providing immediate lifesaving care until EMS personnel arrived on scene. It was the resounding consensus of the emergency response team that the victims would not have survived had it not been for the bravery and quick thinking of Petty Officer Wong and the other participating bystanders under extreme pressure and in an extraordinary circumstance.

Petty Officer Wong's heroism in the extrication of the passengers and preparedness of both intellectual and physical ability resulted in two lives being saved and reflected credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.