

**Why this finalist was deserving of Acadian's Local Hero.**

John is the organizer of the American Lung Association's annual Jeep Jaunt. Each year he is able to round up area Jeep owners to take a drive in recognition of those that have suffered with Lung disease. In addition to the Jeep Jaunt, he has rounded up teams for walks to raise money for other organizations and encourages community awareness and participation. There is so much more I could say about this generous and thoughtful human being. A kind, gentle soul who concerns himself with the world becoming a better place, whether it be through an organization like the American Lung Association or in support of our Troops. My words are not big enough or educated enough to stress to you all what an impact this man has made and is making on this community. He is humble about his efforts and never takes full credit for the growing number of people each year that participate in his volunteering. John thinks before he speaks, gives consideration to those that he may not be on the same page with, leaves an open door to those that have a desire to better themselves and is great at rounding up an interest in being active in the community. Having lost both his parents, he understands the value of time, family, devotion, discipline and dedication. I know you will not regret giving this money to a man that will see to it that the use is distributed properly to the organizations he is so passionate about.

**How JayCee's efforts have made a difference in the community for the better.**

Jeep owners from other towns, cities and areas outside of Acadiana have joined in efforts to raise money and awareness for the American Lung Association. His annual Jeep Jaunt has significantly increased each year helping John honor family members and those that have breathing difficulties.

Submitted by: Lisa Flint