

PS4FS Monthly Newsletter – February 2013:

Dear PS4FS friends,

WHAT A GIFT WE HAVE RECEIVED THIS MONTH! *Friends of the Fallen* at Dover Air Base has indicated **the number of casualties are down**, therefore, we should temporarily stop sending prayer shawls. They will let us know if and when they need more, but for now, our work is fulfilled for the FIRST time in this ministry! I know you are all elated to receive this news! I practically have tears in my eyes writing about it! You may read Ellie's message in the newsletter under "*Dover Program*"! Maybe our men and women will finally begin coming home and end these horrid wars! Please pray for their safety, their well-being, and to bring them home safe and sound!

If you want to join our "direct contact" program, take a look at the Army's Casualty List in this newsletter, which is more time-consuming, but another way to send your prayer shawls to our military families. Although I would love to see the purpose of this program fade away, Dover will likely ask for more prayer shawls by and by, but now we know the number of casualties are down and the thrust of our program is trending down! Isn't that the best news ever! ☺

Maybe this will be our last "huge" newsletter? Let us hope it is! Having said that, I am particularly excited about this month's newsletter! It is one of our most interesting and moving newsletters to date. It is also one of the most unusual! This is the first time we have not a single shared thank you note or message (which is fine, but uncommon). Nevertheless, this month's newsletter is filled with "*Communications from You*" - two of them are particularly moving and historic! Dust off your WWII history books! We also share the final two (of six) videos taken from November 3, 2012's Shawl Gathering in Hartford where you may meet more of our sisters and see their gorgeous work!

Note regarding GS ps: Several of you have already made one – thank you very much. However, since we had the "run" of requests a few months ago, no more have come in. Let me know if you have one, and I'll make a notation next to your name. We are all patient knitters and crocheters!

It never ceases to amaze me, this journey you and I have walked together. We entered it not knowing how long it would take or where it would lead, but we have faith our work will provide healing for our families who, every day, must shoulder unbearable burdens of grief. Six years ago, we did not think we'd still be here, but we can now see the end game for our women and men to finally come home. In six years, we have amassed 282 prayer shawl groups who have delivered 6,613 prayer shawls to military families of the fallen and to Dover Air Base. Our ministry has adapted and changed four times, from a "direct contact" campaign to fulfill the Army's Casualty List, to Googling names on "message boards" and "guest books", to Dover Air Base's call for our help, and now, we are back to Googling message boards, if you like. (see website for instructions) Thank you for sharing this journey! You are all amazing!

Note: Please notify me if your email address changes or if you prefer to be removed from this list.

<http://webpages.charter.net/ps4fs/Shawls/>

Fondly,
Cozette

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I.) CURRENT STATISTICS:

# Prayer Shawls made since October 2007:	6,613	<i>Includes Dover prayer shawls (yellow numbers below)</i>
# sent to Dover since inception of program (Sept. 2009):	3,441	
# sent to Dover this past month:	102	<i>This number is included in above totals</i>
# Prayer Shawl Groups/Individuals:	282	

*A Warm Welcome to New Groups/Individuals who Joined PS4FS in January 2013

Contact Name	Town	State	Date Joined	Group Name
Kim Galla	Trumbull	CT	Nichols UMC, Warm & Fuzzy Ministry	1/2/13
Jeanne Wischenbart	New Britain	CT	St. Maurice Church	1/7/13
Ashley Goldsmith	Weaver	AZ		1/13/13

ARMY'S CASUALTY LIST:

There are a number of you who prefer direct contact with our families. **Please remember to keep me up-to-date of how many prayer shawls you send to these families so that we may keep accurate statistics.** If you take a name/town, I will not mark a prayer shawl sent unless you follow-up and tell me you have done so.

The list of towns below includes "Next-of-Kin" of Army casualties who we have **not** delivered prayer shawls through our direct contact/mail program. **It is** likely a few members of these families have visited Dover Air Base and chosen a prayer shawl before witnessing the Dignified Transfer Ceremony. Often they return home wishing they had taken more, wanting to comfort a grief-stricken sister, grandparent, special aunt, uncle, or for the loved one's children. If you would like to contact these families to offer a prayer shawl, send me a list of the towns. (*Note: Repeat towns have been eliminated - multiple next-of-kin may be associated with a town.*)

INSTRUCTIONS TO GOOGLE A MILITARY NAME, AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE FAMILY'S "MESSAGE BOARD":

This method saves us the cost of postage and time. Google the military rank, first name, and last name (eliminate the middle name). Add the word "message board" or "guest book" at the end, it should look like this:

SGT John Smith message board

CPT James Jones guest book

Once there, leave a message (sample below), then wait to be contacted. This method is much faster than "snail mail", it saves postage, and tends to be more effective at getting results. Often a note is laid away by a grief-stricken family member, but many more eyes see these message boards and guest books, and they respond. Sometimes you'll hear from the family, sometimes a friend of the family will give you their information. Either way, it's a much easier way to contact our families. I encourage you to expand our army casualty list to all service branches. Just Google a known name, copy and paste your message on their message board, and allow them to contact you. It's that easy!

Sample Message to be left on a Message Board / Guest Book:

Re: Rank First name, Last name , DOD

Hello,

*I represent **PRAYER SHAWLS 4 FALLEN SOLDIERS (PS4FS)**, an organization that since October 2007 has sent over 6,500 prayer shawls to military families who have lost a loved one. We are an organization of over 280 groups from all over the country. We make every effort to reach families even when post cards are returned after they have moved. Would you kindly send me a contact email/address so that we may send a loving hand-made prayer shawl to the family? Thank you!*

Cozette Haggerty, Prayer Shawls 4 Fallen Soldiers

Email: ps4fs@charter.net

Website Address: <http://webpages.charter.net/ps4fs/Shawls>

Hamburg	AK	Holiday Island	AR	Indio	CA	Vista	CA
Little Rock	AK	Pago Pago	AS	Julian	CA	Walnut	CA
Monticello	AK	Florence	AZ	Kelseyville	CA	Westwood	CA
North Pole	AK	Glendale	AZ	La Grange	CA	Williams	CA
Van Buren	AK	Huachuca City	AZ	Lake Elsinore	CA	Yucaipa	CA
Warren	AK	Kingman	AZ	Lawndale	CA	Alameda	CA
Birmingham	AL	Laveen	AZ	Long Beach	CA	Blythe	CA
Blountsville	AL	Litchfield Park	AZ	Los Angeles	CA	Brawley	CA
Cullman	AL	Phoenix	AZ	Lucerne	CA	Citrus Heights	CA
Grady	AL	Sierra Vista	AZ	Lynwood	CA	Fullerton	CA
Homewood	AL	Surprise	AZ	Menifee	CA	Lucerne Valley	CA
Huntsville	AL	Tucson	AZ	Murrieta	CA	Riverside	CA
Madison	AL	Winslow	AZ	New Cuyama	CA	Salinas	CA
Millbrook	AL	American Canyon	CA	Newman	CA	San Jose	CA
Mobile	AL	Arcadia	CA	Northridge	CA	Tustin	CA
Montgomery	AL	Capistrano Beach	CA	Ontario	CA	Winchester	CA
Oneonta	AL	Cathedral City	CA	Redding	CA	Yuba City	CA
Opelika	AL	Crescent City	CA	Reseda	CA	Aurora	CO
Peterman	AL	Cupertino	CA	Riverside	CA	Castle Rock	CO
Phenix City	AL	Dana Point	CA	Running Springs	CA	Colora]	CO
Russellville	AL	Empire	CA	San Bernardino	CA	Colorado Springs	CO
Trussville	AL	Glendale	CA	San Diego	CA	Denver	CO
Wetumpka	AL	Hayward	CA	San Jose	CA	Fort Carson	CO
Cullman	AL	Hemet	CA	South Lake Tahoe	CA	Fountain	CO
Jacksonville	AL	Hesperia	CA	Ventura	CA	Fruita	CO
Oneonta	AL	Huntington Beach	CA	Victorville	CA	Parker	CO

Salida	CO	Macon	GA	Covington	LA	Union	MO
Thornton	CO	Marietta	GA	Fort Polk	LA	Catawissa	MO
Westcliffe	CO	McDonough	GA	Gueydan	LA	Highlandville	MO
Colorado Springs	CO	McRae	GA	Haughton	LA	Baldwyn	MS
Denver	CO	Midway	GA	Jonesboro	LA	Bay Saint Louis	MS
Larkspur	CO	Pooler	GA	Lake Charles	LA	Foxworth	MS
Baltic	CT	Richmond Hill	GA	Metairie	LA	Gulfport	MS
Hartford	CT	Riverdale	GA	Pearl River	LA	Hattiesburg	MS
Suffield	CT	Saint Marys	GA	Port Barre	LA	Kiln	MS
Uncasville	CT	Savannah	GA	West Monroe	LA	Mooreville	MS
Waterford	CT	Tybee Island	GA	Belmont	MA	Moss Point	MS
Willimantic	CT	Valdosta	GA	North Adams	MA	Philadelphia	MS
Winsted	CT	Honolulu	HI	Springfield	MA	Union	MS
Washington	DC	Mililani	HI	Tewksbury	MA	Vancleave	MS
Hockessin	DE	Waianae	HI	Arlington	MA	Vicksburg	MS
Auburndale	FL	Ankeny	IA	Attleboro	MA	Black Eagle	MT
Boca Raton	FL	Bettendorf	IA	Brockton	MD	Great Falls	MT
Bradenton	FL	Blue Grass	IA	Cabin John	MD	Broadway	NC
Brooksville	FL	Cascade	IA	Capitol Heights	MD	Fayetteville	NC
Chuluota	FL	Dakota City	IA	Clinton	MD	Bismarck	ND
Clearwater	FL	Davenport	IA	Edgewood	MD	Milford	NH
Debarry	FL	Eldridge	IA	Germantown	MD	Nashua	NH
Fort Walton Beach	FL	Fort Dodge	IA	Glen Burnie	MD	Plaistow	NH
Grand Ridge	FL	Gilmore City	IA	Glendale	MD	Blairstown	NJ
Homestead	FL	Glenwood	IA	Hagerstown	MD	Hamilton	NJ
Immokalee	FL	Grimes	IA	Hughesville	MD	Jersey City	NJ
Inverness	FL	Johnston	IA	Kensington	MD	Albuquerque	NM
Jacksonville	FL	Le Claire	IA	Prince Frederick	MD	Bayard	NM
Kissimmee	FL	Red Oak	IA	Saint Leonard	MD	Clovis	NM
Lakeland	FL	Shenandoah	IA	Silver Spring	MD	Espanola	NM
Land O Lakes	FL	Williams	IA	St. Leonard	MD	Farmington	NM
Largo	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Upper Marlboro	MD	Las Cruces	NM
Lehigh Acres	FL	Crown Point	ID	Urbana	MD	Roswell	NM
Lithia	FL	East Chicago	ID	Wilton	ME	Santa Cruz	NM
Lynn Haven	FL	Idaho Falls	ID	Ann Arbor	MI	Santa Teresa	NM
Maitland	FL	Jerome	ID	Auburn Hills	MI	White Sands	NM
Marianna	FL	Kuna	ID	Battle Creek	MI	Fallon	NV
Matlacha	FL	Lewiston	ID	Boyne City	MI	Henderson	NV
Minneola	FL	Nampa	ID	Brighton	MI	Las Vegas	NV
Naples	FL	Preston	ID	Byron Center	MI	Reno	NV
Opa Locka	FL	Twin Falls	ID	Caro	MI	Alden	NY
Orange Park	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Cedar Springs	MI	Ballston Spa	NY
P.S.L.	FL	Jerome	ID	Chesterfield	MI	Brockport	NY
Palatka	FL	Rupert	ID	Commerce Township	MI	Bronx	NY
Palm Bay	FL	Aledo	IL	Corunna	MI	Brooklyn	NY
Pembroke Pines	FL	Auroa	IL	Ferndale	MI	Clarence Center	NY
Plant City	FL	Chicago	IL	Flint	MI	Cohoes	NY
Port Charlotte	FL	Cottage Hills	IL	Fraser	MI	Corning	NY
Riverview	FL	Decatur	IL	Gaylord	MI	East Atlantic Beach	NY
Safety Harbor	FL	Effingham	IL	Grand Rapids	MI	East Meadow	NY
Saint Petersburg	FL	Fox Lake	IL	Grandville	MI	Fort Drum	NY
Tampa	FL	Gurnee	IL	Granger	MI	Fredonia	NY
The Villages	FL	Lawrenceville	IL	Harrison Township	MI	Geneva	NY
Valrico	FL	Moline	IL	Hazel Park	MI	Getzville	NY
Wesley Chapel	FL	Mount Carmel	IL	Kalamazoo	MI	Hewlett	NY
Zephyrhills	FL	Nelson	IL	Lansing	MI	Loweville	NY
Bartow	FL	New Windsor	IL	Midland	MI	Monroe	NY
Homestead	FL	North Aurora	IL	Morley	MI	New York	NY
Jacksonville	FL	Oak Park	IL	Muskegon	MI	Newburgh	NY
Lehigh Acres	FL	Opdyke	IL	Owosso	MI	Oswego	NY
Lynn Haven	FL	Round Lake Beach	IL	Rochester Hills	MI	Pittsford	NY
Palm Bay	FL	Sheffield	IL	Romulus	MI	Port Henry	NY
Tallahassee	FL	Springfield	IL	Saginaw	MI	Ravena	NY
Acworth	GA	Taylorville	IL	Saint Clair Shores	MI	Rochester	NY
Atlanta	GA	Waukegan	IL	Saline	MI	Selkirk	NY
Bonaire	GA	Winchester	IL	Sanford	MI	Syracuse	NY
Canton	GA	Xenia	IL	Shelby Township	MI	Troy	NY
Commerce	GA	La Grange	IL	Southgate	MI	Tyrone	NY
Dearing	GA	Peoria	IL	Sturgis	MI	Walden	NY
Fort Stewart	GA	Wheaton	IL	Whitmore Lake	MI	Wallkill	NY
Gainesville	GA	Fort Riley	KS	Williamston	MI	Waterford	NY
Griffin	GA	Junction City	KS	Ypsilanti	MI	Watertown	NY
Grovetown	GA	Kansas City	KS	Saginaw	MI	Weedsport	NY
Hampton	GA	Leavenworth	KS	Yale	MI	Checotah	OK
Helena	GA	Manhattan	KS	Apple Valley	MN	Claremore	OK
Hephzibah	GA	Milford	KS	Carver	MN	Durant	OK
Hinesville	GA	Olathe	KS	Detroit Lakes	MN	El Reno	OK
Hull	GA	Overland Park	KS	Duluth	MN	Fort Sill	OK
Jacksonville	GA	Salina	KS	Inver Grove Heights	MN	Haskell	OK
Kennesaw	GA	Shawnee	KS	Lengby	MN	Lawton	OK
Kingsland	GA	Wichita	KS	Rosemount	MN	Noble	OK
Leesburg	GA	Alexandria	LA	Columbia	MO	Norman	OK
Ludowici	GA	Arabi	LA	Platte City	MO	Oklahoma City	OK

Owasso	OK	Yankton	SD	Lometa	TX	Cheney	WA
Porter	OK	Chattanooga	TN	Lumberton	TX	College Place	WA
Purcell	OK	Clarksville	TN	Mansfield	TX	Edmonds	WA
Sapulpa	OK	Dover	TN	McGregor	TX	Everett	WA
Stillwater	OK	Elizabethton	TN	McAllen	TX	Joint Base Lewis-	
Tulsa	OK	Franklin	TN	McKinney	TX	McChord	WA
Claremore	OK	Goodspring	TN	Mesquite	TX	Lacey	WA
Lawton	OK	LaVergne	TN	Mission	TX	Lakewood	WA
Miami	OK	Murfreesboro	TN	Moody	TX	Olympia	WA
Newcastle	OK	Nashville	TN	New Caney	TX	Puyallup	WA
Baker City	OR	Woodlawn	TN	Nolanville	TX	Seattle	WA
Creswell	OR	Alvarado	TX	Pharr	TX	Spokane	WA
Hillsboro	OR	Amarillo	TX	Plano	TX	Tacoma	WA
Tigard	OR	Arlington	TX	Rowlett	TX	Walla Walla	WA
Baker City	OR	Austin	TX	San Antonio	TX	Appleton	WI
Minersville	PA	Bastrop	TX	Seguin	TX	Darlington	WI
Philadelphia	PA	Beaumont	TX	Sugarland	TX	Deer Park	WI
Seward	PA	Brownsville	TX	Sunset	TX	Elkhorn	WI
Shenandoah	PA	Cameron	TX	Temple	TX	Green Bay	WI
Shippensburg	PA	Copperas Cove	TX	Texarkana	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Attleboro	RI	Corsicana	TX	The Colony	TX	Horicon	WI
Central Falls	RI	Dallas	TX	Three Rivers	TX	Hudson	WI
Cranston	RI	Denton	TX	Uvalde	TX	Marshfield	WI
North Providence	RI	El Paso	TX	Waco	TX	Neenah	WI
Pawtucket	RI	Fort Davis	TX	Watauga	TX	Shullsburg	WI
Providence	RI	Fort Hood	TX	Weslaco	TX	Wilmot	WI
Bluffton	SC	Fort Worth	TX	Yantis	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Columbia	SC	Frost	TX	Santaquin	UT	Orfordville	WI
Easley	SC	Gatesville	TX	Falls Church	VA	Glen Daniel	WV
Goose Creek	SC	Georgetown	TX	Lexington	VA	Grant Town	WV
Hopkins	SC	Harker Heights	TX	Norfolk	VA	Huntington	WV
Jackson	SC	Houston	TX	Prince George	VA	Cheyenne	WY
Lexington	SC	Hurst	TX	South Chesterfield	VA	Rawlins	WY
North Charleston	SC	Irving	TX	Stafford	VA	Rivertown	WY
Piedmont	SC	Kennedale	TX	Vienna	VA	Shelly	WY
Simpsonville	SC	Kileen	TX	Virginia Beach	VA	Sheridan	WY
Swansea	SC	Kyle	TX	Williamsburg	VA	Shell	WY
Warrenville	SC	Lamesa	TX	Yorktown	VA		
Lead	SD	Lawn	TX	Arlington	WA		
Piedmont	SD	Little Elm	TX	Centralia	WA		

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOU:

I hope you have all enjoyed the videos taken at the Shawl Gathering last November 3rd. This month, the final two videos are below. The first one is of PS4FS knitter/crocheter Carol Weber, who heads Grace Lutheran Church and Christ Episcopal Church's group in Teaneck, New Jersey, and her mother, Doris Baumann, who works with Prince of Peace Lutheran Church's prayer shawl group in Old Tappan, New Jersey. They are both joined by Nancy Markowski who belongs to Carol's group in Teaneck. Both groups joined our ministry May 3, 2008, and in that time they have delivered **117** prayer shawls to Dover Air Base! This number does not include the "direct contact" active letter writing campaign they undertook, in the beginning of this ministry before Dover Air Base. What is amazing is that Carol, Doris, and Nancy all drove from New Jersey to Hartford, despite the wrath of Hurricane Sandy – they had had no power for five days and still came! I apologize for the poor audio on this video – it was the first one taken - standing in the hallway with too much background noise. After that, we found a hideaway closet and stole some video time there! Hopefully, you will be able to hear it well enough!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9uxwa64isA>

And finally, it's a pleasure to introduce you to the final two sisters of our ministry: PS4FS knitter/crocheter Mary Bossie who heads The Knitting Angels and Angel Hookers, from St. Leo and SS Peter & St. Paul, in Waterbury, Connecticut. Mary tells us they needed a name for their crocheters, and just came up with the great name this past year! Mary is joined by Terri Longo, of the same group. They joined our ministry February 19, 2008, and have delivered 53 prayer shawls to Dover Air Base. Like the group above, they too took an active part in the early days of our letter writing/direct contact of the Army's Casualty List. I have had the pleasure of meeting Mary and her group several years at the Shawl Gathering! What fun it is to rekindle these friendships we have established! You will especially enjoy their patriotic work, which they will show in this video. Again, I apologize for the poor audio quality – I was searching for a quiet place, and had a difficult time finding one! Hopefully, you will be able to hear Mary and Terri well enough! They make gorgeous prayer shawls!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZ3-H93ZYn0>

Last month, Annette Swartwout shared a photo of one of her two groups, but it did not include the group's information! Below is the same photo showing the very active Rocky Mount United Methodist Church's Prayer Shawl group from Mooresville, North Carolina! Again, thank you ladies for your support of this ministry! This group has belonged to our ministry since April 2, 2008 – and they are "eager beavers" doing a massive amount of direct contact using the Army's Casualty List! Thank you all for your support and good work!



Above from L-R: Mooresville Newcomers: Ann Mank, Annette Swartwout, Shirley Huffman, Meredith Nelson, Diane Sawyer, Carol Burbank, Jan Atkinson, Lois Langley, Darlene Decker, Joanne Doyle, Donna Shoemaker

I hope you do not mind my indulging you for a *brief* moment to welcome charming 3 lb. 11 oz. Emma into this world! Emma is the tiny granddaughter of PS4FS member Lynne Neibert, who heads Trindle Spring Lutheran Church's prayer shawl group from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. Precious Emma lives in North Carolina, and this past month had her first of many visits from her loving grandmother! Welcome Emma! Now back to our regular business! ☺ (1 photo right)



PS4FS knitter/crocheter Jean Lloyd, who heads Clare Prayer Shawl Ministry at the Shrine of St. Anthony in Ellicott City, Maryland, tells me the group sent another three prayer shawls to Dover this past month. This group has a celebrated star knitter/crocheter, Nella Musio, who Jean asked to celebrate with us (1 photo left). Jean tells me she copied the Gold Star pattern from our website. That's the one on the left in the picture, Nella later added the gold star. How beautiful! Jean says:

I am including a picture of Nella Musio because she has made 80 of the 124 we've sent to Dover thus far. Nella is our star knitter and very dedicated to the cause making at least three a month. She also makes other shawls for our prayer shawl ministry each month as well. She is amazing!

Thank you for sharing a story about one of your star knitters! You are all encouraged to do the same! Tell us about yourselves! This is a good place to "brag" about what we do here! And thank you, Nella, for your dedication and caring about our military families! Your work makes a huge difference! What beautiful work! I believe the red cross is tacked onto the prayer shawl? And it looks like Nella has begun a Gold Star prayer shawl! How wonderful!

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Ashley Goldsmith, who joined us January 8, 2011, lives in Weaver, Arizona. Her husband, Jeremy, is a captain in the National Guard, serving his second deployment, first in Iraq, and now in Afghanistan. Ashley inquired whether our military families might like a lace angel. It's not a prayer shawl, but I believe anything as lovely as this would be appreciated by one of our military families. Do you all agree? She tells me these lace angels take about two hours to make. Thank you, Ashley! And please send our blessings to Jeremy! She writes: (1 photo right)



Recently I started doing embroidery with my mom. I got a design that makes a free-standing lace angel. I immediately thought that this would be something beautiful to send to grieving spouses or parents. If you think this might fit somewhere into this ministry, please let me know. It would be something I could do quickly. Thank you very much. Ashley Goldsmith



PS4FS knitter/crocheter Mitzi Christian, who lives in Alexandria, Virginia, shares a photo of herself and her lovely work. Mitzi joined our ministry May 5, 2011, so she is fairly new, works alone, yet in that short period, she has mailed 11 prayer shawls to Dover Air Base! That's pretty incredible! (1 photo left)

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Ellen Tingley, of Christ United Methodist Church in Franklin, Tennessee, sent a remarkable story this month! Her husband, Ted, saw an article in the Nashville papers regarding a Tennessee soldier who had been a POW in Korea. When the war ended no one ever heard from him. She writes: (1 photo right)

Now they have returned his body and the burial will be Saturday (1-12-13) in Palmer, TN. SIXTY YEARS! Ted is going down to the visitation and I am sending four shawls for his sister and three brothers. I did not know if he was on the list of ones we needed and we do not know if they received a shawl in Dover or not. It doesn't matter. Ted wants to go and I want to send shawls.

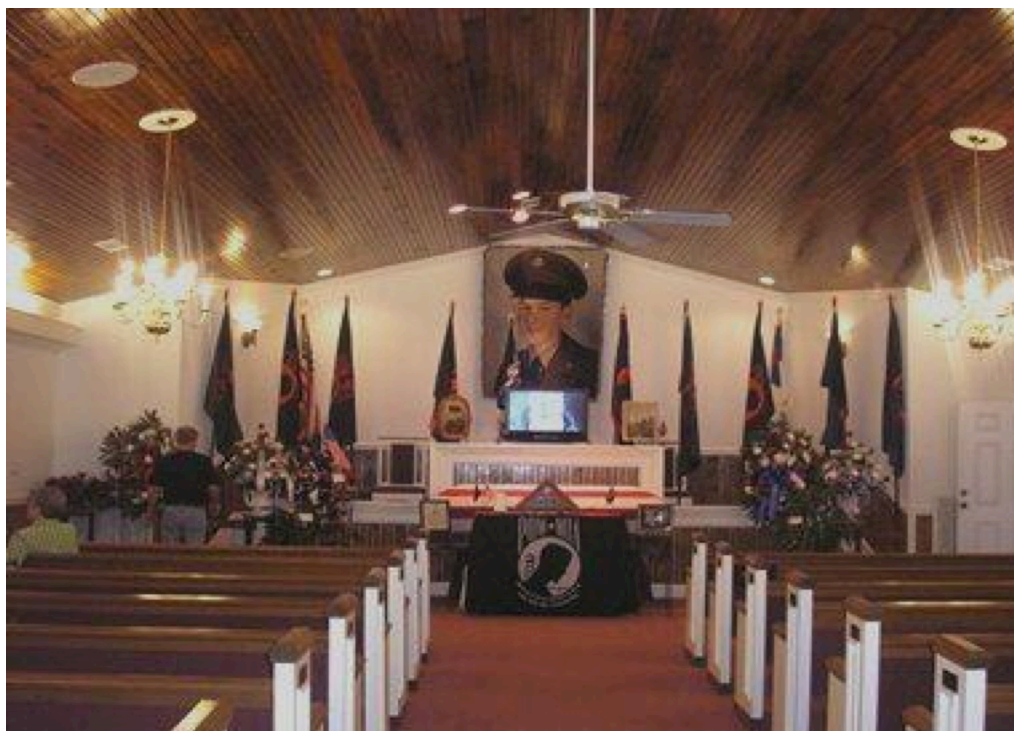
It would be an honor to include Glenn's name in our database. Due to his DOD, Glenn's name becomes the first name among thousands. It does not matter when he served. His family has grieved for 60 years, they deserve our loving prayer shawls! What a wonderful story, Ellen! We thank both you and Ted for caring, for doing the right thing! You have warmed the hearts of his family!

Below are excerpts from The Clarksville Online – The Voice of Clarksville, Tennessee

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS GLENN SCHOENMANN'S BODY WILL RETURN AFTER 62 YEARS

Nashville, TN – Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Many-Bears Grinder solemnly announce the body of Private First Class Glenn Schoenmann will finally be laid to rest after 62 years. Schoenmann was assigned to Company M, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division in the United States Army when he was involved in the infamous Battle of Chosin Reservoir in North Korea on November 28th, 1950. The Grundy County native reportedly died as a Prisoner of War on December 29th, 1950. Family members say Schoenmann's remains were recovered in 2004, but the identification process was finalized in December, 2012.

Schoenmann was born in Palmer, Tennessee, but grew up in Tracy City where he attended James Shook School and worked on the Werner Farm with his family. Schoenmann was 20-years old when he was killed. "The Schoenmann family has waited 62 years to give Glenn a proper burial, and we join them in remembering his service and sacrifice," Haslam said. "As a state we mourn the loss of PFC Schoenmann, but we are grateful for his return to his home and family." "PFC Schoenmann's courage and bravery to serve his country will be recognized and remembered by his fellow Tennesseans," Grinder said. "The closure for the Schoenmann family is continued proof we should never give up until all of our missing in action and prisoner of war service members have been brought home."



Schoenmann is survived by his sister Edna Kilgore of Monteagle, Tennessee, brothers Ernest Schoenmann of Creave Coure, Illinois, Raymond Schoenmann of Tracy City, Tennessee and Carl Schoenmann of Winchester, Tennessee. "It just means a lot that he will be buried in the same cemetery with our mother, father and grandparents," Raymond Schoenmann said. "It's finally uniting the family back together."

Below are the lovely prayer shawls Ellen dedicated to Glenn's family. She also took a picture of the funeral home. Thank you, Ellen, for sharing this touching story with us!

Ellen tells me she and Ted were able to meet with the Glenn's sister and three brothers at the Funeral Home. They asked Ellen and Ted to present the prayer shawls that evening when they were blessed in Glenn's name.



PS4FS knitter/crocheter Jane Conley, who heads the wonderful St. Columbkil Parish's Prayer Shawl group from Boyertown, Pennsylvania, wrote that their group is sending another six prayer shawls to Dover this past month. This made me wonder, how many groups have sent 100 or more prayer shawls to Dover since we began that program 3 ½ years ago? The answer is TEN! Please do not think this is a ploy to get you all to race to that number! I've mentioned this many times, we are here because we want to be, with no pressure to produce! We all agree we want QUALITY over quantity! But don't you agree it's interesting how many groups belong to the "100 Club"? (Note: there were a few of you in the 90's as this was written!) Once again, it shows how truly amazing we are! I hope you all appreciate the huge amount of work we do! Thank you all, whether you have sent one or many prayer shawls to Dover! It is truly an honor to be among you!

# DOVER PS	GROUP LEADER	CITY	STATE	GROUP NAME	DATE JOINED
179	Melanie Staubitz & Sharon Schuesler	Cincinnati	OH	Messiah Lutheran Church in Cincinnati	4/16/08
146	Sharon Wainwright	Bakersfield	CA	"Knit-a-Prayer" First United Methodist Church	10/8/07
141	Dottie Stevens	Smithfield	VA	Stitched In Prayers (Trinity United Methodist Church)	
137	Brenda Saunders	Ashburn	VA	Ashburn Presbyterian Church	1/20/09
129	Ellen Powell	Central Hill	VA	Central Hill Baptist Woman's Missionary Union 10270	8/16/10
124	Jean Lloyd	Ellicott City	MD	Clare Prayer Shawl Ministry at the Shrine of St. Anthony	1/4/08
117	Carol Weber and her mother, Doris Bauman	Teaneck Old Tappan	NJ	Grace Lutheran Church and Christ Episcopal Churches Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	5/3/08
114	Donna Boggs	Glendale	OH	Comfort and Joy from Christ Episcopal Church of Glendale	3/26/08
107	Susan Shedd	Ashburnham	MA	St. Denis Prayer Shawl Ministry	1/18/08
103	Jane Conley	Boyertown	PA	St. Columbkil Parish	5/13/08

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Diane Caggiano, a Deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut, joined our ministry September 11, 2012. Already Diane shares an AMAZING story! Her story below is actually two combined stories in one. In her own words:

Dear Prayer Shawls 4 Fallen Soldiers knitters and crocheters:

*On November 11th, 2012, The Central Deanery of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut held a free Veterans Day Concert at St. John's Episcopal Church in Bristol, Connecticut. The purpose of the concert was to honor our veterans for their service to our country. Veterans groups in the area received a special invitation to join us for this event. A combined choir from the Deanery performed patriotic songs including the official song of each of the five branches of our armed services. We even had the participation of a color guard from a local Boy Scout Troop. As part of this event, we asked if any of the churches would like to donate red, white, and blue prayer shawls to be sent to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware for the families of our fallen service men and women. The response was amazing – we ended up with **40** prayer shawls for Dover! We were honored to have The Rt. Rev. James Curry attend to bless the prayer shawls. All of the veterans present were asked to stand so that we could honor them for their service. It was a wonderful evening – many have asked if we would do it again next year. It just might be a plan!*

Diane continues by explaining why she herself cares deeply about this ministry – below is the second half of her story:

It was my honor to be able to participate in the gathering of the prayer shawls. This is a ministry that is close to my heart, for on the evening of July 29/30, 1945 at just a few minutes past midnight, the USS Indianapolis was hit by a torpedo blast from a Japanese submarine. It sank within twelve minutes. The USS Indianapolis was returning from a key mission: to deliver atom bomb parts to the Enola Gay, a mission that would end the war. It was commonplace to have an escort ship assigned during the war, but in this case, no escort ship had been assigned, so over 1,100 men were tossed into the shark-infested waters of the Pacific Ocean, left to die, many without even a life jacket. After 5 nights and 4 days of unthinkable horror, the few that remained were spotted just by chance from the air. A rescue mission began. Of the 1,197 men that were on board, only 317 survived. My father was one of two men who were rescued only to die a few days later. I know first-hand about the sacrifices many of our service men, women, and their families make for our freedom!



Years later, "The USS Indianapolis Survivors Organization" was established. The survivors and their families have reunions which are very healing to all. Even after all these decades, there is a great need to heal! With the help of "The USS Indianapolis Survivors Organization", I have been blessed with healing and peace. It is my hope that in some small way, I can help others to find healing and peace in their hearts. May God bless you all for what you do, and may there someday be peace on earth. Sincerely, Deacon Diane Caggiano



Above are colored photos of the service taken by Diane. Aren't the prayer shawls gorgeous! How lovely, the display of 40 patriotic prayer shawls blessed by The Rt. Rev. James Curry (on right with purple shirt and white collar) before being sent onto Dover Air Base. Notice a few of the Veterans wore their military hats and jackets! What a wonderful event!

II. DOVER PROGRAM:

Below is the news we have been waiting for:

As 2013 begins, our greatest wish appears to be coming true! The number of Fallen has begun to decrease. We have been seeing a definite decline in the number of DT's. We can only hope and pray that this will continue. We now ask that your members suspend making shawls for FOF. The supply we have should last us quite a while, but if needed, I know you will be there for the families. I hope all your groups know how special they are and the comfort that they have given to the families is immeasurable. Warm Regards, Ellie Dill, Friends of the Fallen Secretary

If and when they need more prayer shawls, I will let you all know. Let's hope this good news holds and we don't have to send any more! Wouldn't that be truly wonderful!

IV. THANK YOU NOTES AND MESSAGES:

None this month