

PS4FS Monthly Newsletter – March 2013:

Dear PS4FS friends,

This past month, for the first time in this ministry, we received a much smaller Army casualty list - 13 casualties were listed. We are eternally grateful for this smaller number. Although this newsletter displays a large list, it is likely the majority have visited Dover and received prayer shawls there. I ask for your prayers for peace, for our remaining troops to come home and easily assimilate back into the workforce and with their families. I do not know whether we will have more requests from Dover, but for the time being this is all very good news!

For those of you who have made Gold Star prayer shawls, we have had no requests since having a “run” on them a few months ago. I have your names if we do receive requests, but for now, all direct requests have been exceptionally quiet. One suggestion is to use the “direct contact” method for our Army’s casualty list (instructions below and on our website). This will be the last month I will post the Google instructions in this newsletter – if you are interested in trying this method, please visit our website.

Again, thank you for hanging in here and making such a difference for our families! I hope you will continue to send photos of your groups and of your beautiful work! We are not done, so please don’t fade away. Not quite yet!

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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II. COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOU

I.) CURRENT STATISTICS:

# Prayer Shawls made since October 2007:	6,641	<i>Includes Dover prayer shawls (yellow numbers below)</i>
# sent to Dover since inception of program (Sept. 2009):	3,449	
# sent to Dover this past month:	8	<i>This number is included in above totals</i>
# Prayer Shawl Groups/Individuals:	283	

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

Contact Name	Town	State	Group Name	Date Joined
Mary Lou Reed	Union Grove	AL	Union Chapel United Methodist Church	2/1/13

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.

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. This is a much easier way to contact our families. I encourage you to expand our army causality list to all service branches. Simply 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 6,600 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	Arcadia	CA	San Bernardino	CA	Colorado Springs	CO
Little Rock	AK	Capistrano Beach	CA	San Diego	CA	Denver	CO
Monticello	AK	Castaic	CA	San Francisco	CA	Larkspur	CO
North Pole	AK	Cathedral City	CA	San Jose	CA	Hartford	CT
Van Buren	AK	Crescent City	CA	South Lake Tahoe	CA	Suffield	CT
Warren	AK	Cupertino	CA	Ventura	CA	Uncasville	CT
Ashford	AL	Dana Point	CA	Victorville	CA	Waterford	CT
Blountsville	AL	Empire	CA	Vista	CA	Willimantic	CT
Cullman	AL	Glendale	CA	Walnut	CA	Winsted	CT
Grady	AL	Hayward	CA	Westwood	CA	Washington	DC
Homewood	AL	Hemet	CA	Williams	CA	Hockessin	DE
Huntsville	AL	Hesperia	CA	Yucaipa	CA	Auburndale	FL
Madison	AL	Huntington Beach	CA	Alameda	CA	Boca Raton	FL
Millbrook	AL	Indio	CA	Blythe	CA	Bradenton	FL
Mobile	AL	Julian	CA	Brawley	CA	Brooksville	FL
Oneonta	AL	Kelseyville	CA	Citrus Heights	CA	Chuluota	FL
Opelika	AL	La Grange	CA	Fullerton	CA	Clearwater	FL
Peterman	AL	Lake Elsinore	CA	Lucerne Valley	CA	Cocoa	FL
Phenix City	AL	Lawndale	CA	Riverside	CA	Davie	FL
Russellville	AL	Long Beach	CA	Salinas	CA	Debary	FL
Trussville	AL	Los Angeles	CA	San Jose	CA	Grand Ridge	FL
Wetumpka	AL	Lucerne	CA	Tustin	CA	Homestead	FL
Cullman	AL	Lynwood	CA	Winchester	CA	Hudson	FL
Jacksonville	AL	Menifee	CA	Yuba City	CA	Immokalee	FL
Oneonta	AL	Moorpark	CA	Aurora	CO	Inverness	FL
Holiday Island	AR	Murrieta	CA	Canon City	CO	Jacksonville	FL
Florence	AZ	New Cuyama	CA	Castle Rock	CO	Kissimmee	FL
Glendale	AZ	Newman	CA	Colora]	CO	Lakeland	FL
Huachuca City	AZ	Northridge	CA	Colorado Springs	CO	Land O Lakes	FL
Kingman	AZ	Oak Hills	CA	Denver	CO	Largo	FL
Laveen	AZ	Ojai	CA	Fort Carson	CO	Lithia	FL
Phoenix	AZ	Ontario	CA	Fountain	CO	Lynn Haven	FL
Sierra Vista	AZ	Redding	CA	Fruita	CO	Maitland	FL
Surprise	AZ	Reseda	CA	Parker	CO	Marianna	FL
Tucson	AZ	Riverside	CA	Salida	CO	Matlacha	FL
Winslow	AZ	Running Springs	CA	Thornton	CO	Minneola	FL
American Canyon	CA	Sacramento	CA	Westcliffe	CO	Naples	FL

Ocala	FL	Twin Falls	ID	Glen Burnie	MD	Gulfport	MS
Opa Locka	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Glendale	MD	Hattiesburg	MS
Orange Park	FL	Jerome	ID	Hagerstown	MD	Kiln	MS
Palatka	FL	Rupert	ID	Hughesville	MD	Mooreville	MS
Palm Bay	FL	Aledo	IL	Hyattsville	MD	Moss Point	MS
Pembroke Pines	FL	Auroa	IL	Kensington	MD	Philadelphia	MS
Plant City	FL	Berwyn	IL	Prince Frederick	MD	Union	MS
Port Charlotte	FL	Carpentersville	IL	Saint Leonard	MD	Vanceleave	MS
Riverview	FL	Chicago	IL	Silver Spring	MD	Vicksburg	MS
Safety Harbor	FL	Cottage Hills	IL	St. Leonard	MD	Black Eagle	MT
Saint Petersburg	FL	Decatur	IL	Upper Marlboro	MD	Great Falls	MT
Tampa	FL	Effingham	IL	Urbana	MD	Fayetteville	NC
The Villages	FL	Fox Lake	IL	Lisbon Falls	ME	Fletcher	NC
Valrico	FL	Gurnee	IL	Ann Arbor	MI	Bismarck	ND
Wesley Chapel	FL	Lawrenceville	IL	Battle Creek	MI	Milford	NH
Zephyrhills	FL	Moline	IL	Boyne City	MI	Nashua	NH
Bartow	FL	Mount Carmel	IL	Byron Center	MI	Plaistow	NH
Homestead	FL	Nelson	IL	Caro	MI	Blairstown	NJ
Jacksonville	FL	New Windsor	IL	Cedar Springs	MI	Blairstown	NJ
Palm Bay	FL	North Aurora	IL	Chesterfield	MI	Hamilton	NJ
Tallahassee	FL	Oak Park	IL	Commerce Township	MI	Jersey City	NJ
Acworth	GA	Opdyke	IL	Corunna	MI	Albuquerque	NM
Atlanta	GA	Round Lake Beach	IL	Ferndale	MI	Bayard	NM
Bonaire	GA	Sheffield	IL	Flint	MI	Clovis	NM
Canton	GA	Springfield	IL	Fraser	MI	Espanola	NM
Dearing	GA	Waukegan	IL	Gaylord	MI	Farmington	NM
Fort Stewart	GA	Winchester	IL	Grand Rapids	MI	Las Cruces	NM
Griffin	GA	Xenia	IL	Grandville	MI	Roswell	NM
Hampton	GA	La Grange	IL	Granger	MI	Santa Cruz	NM
Hephzibah	GA	Peoria	IL	Harrison Township	MI	Santa Teresa	NM
Marietta	GA	Wheaton	IL	Hazel Park	MI	White Sands	NM
McDonough	GA	Fort Riley	KS	Kalamazoo	MI	Fallon	NV
Pooler	GA	Junction City	KS	Lansing	MI	Henderson	NV
Powder Springs	GA	Kansas City	KS	Midland	MI	Las Vegas	NV
Richmond Hill	GA	Leavenworth	KS	Morley	MI	Reno	NV
Savannah	GA	Manhattan	KS	Muskegon	MI	Alden	NY
Tybee Island	GA	Milford	KS	Owosso	MI	Ballston Spa	NY
Valdosta	GA	Olathe	KS	Rochester Hills	MI	Brockport	NY
West Point	GA	Overland Park	KS	Romulus	MI	Bronx	NY
Honolulu	HI	Salina	KS	Saginaw	MI	Brooklyn	NY
Mililani	HI	Shawnee	KS	Saint Clair Shores	MI	Clarence Center	NY
Wahiawa	HI	Wichita	KS	Saline	MI	Cohoes	NY
Waianae	HI	Lexington	KY	Sanford	MI	Corning	NY
Ankeny	IA	Louisville	KY	Shelby Township	MI	East Atlantic Beach	NY
Bettendorf	IA	Alexandria	LA	Southgate	MI	East Meadow	NY
Blue Grass	IA	Arabi	LA	Sturgis	MI	Fort Drum	NY
Cascade	IA	Covington	LA	Whitmore Lake	MI	Fredonia	NY
Dakota City	IA	Fort Polk	LA	Williamston	MI	Geneva	NY
Davenport	IA	Gueydan	LA	Ypsilanti	MI	Getzville	NY
Eldridge	IA	Haughton	LA	Saginaw	MI	Hewlett	NY
Fort Dodge	IA	Jonesboro	LA	Yale	MI	Loweville	NY
Gilmore City	IA	Lake Charles	LA	Apple Valley	MN	Monroe	NY
Grimes	IA	Leesville	LA	Carver	MN	New York City	NY
Johnston	IA	Metairie	LA	Detroit Lakes	MN	Newburgh	NY
Le Claire	IA	Metarie	LA	Duluth	MN	Oswego	NY
Red Oak	IA	Pearl River	LA	Inver Grove Heights	MN	Pittsford	NY
Shenandoah	IA	Port Barre	LA	Lengby	MN	Port Henry	NY
Williams	IA	West Monroe	LA	Columbia	MO	Ravena	NY
Bonnors Ferry	ID	Gloucester	MA	Essex	MO	Rochester	NY
Crown Point	ID	Mansfield	MA	Platte City	MO	Selkirk	NY
East Chicago	ID	North Adams	MA	Union	MO	Troy	NY
Jerome	ID	Springfield	MA	Catawissa	MO	Tyrone	NY
Kuna	ID	Tewksbury	MA	Highlandville	MO	Walden	NY
Lewiston	ID	Attleboro	MA	Baldwyn	MS	Walkill	NY
Nampa	ID	Edgewood	MD	Bay Saint Louis	MS	Walkill	NY
Preston	ID	Germantown	MD	Foxworth	MS	Waterford	NY

WeedSPORT	NY	Varnville	SC	Kyle	TX	Centralia	WA
Cleveland	OH	Lead	SD	Lamesa	TX	College Place	WA
Checotah	OK	Piedmont	SD	Lawn	TX	Edmonds	WA
Claremore	OK	Yankton	SD	Little Elm	TX	Joint Base Lewis-McChord	WA
Durant	OK	Chattanooga	TN	Lometa	TX	Lacey	WA
El Reno	OK	Clarksville	TN	Lumberton	TX	McChord Air Force Base	WA
Fort Sill	OK	Dover	TN	Mansfield	TX	Olympia	WA
Haskell	OK	Elizabethton	TN	Mc Gregor	TX	Puyallup	WA
Lawton	OK	Franklin	TN	McAllen	TX	Seattle	WA
Noble	OK	LaVergne	TN	McKinney	TX	Spokane	WA
Norman	OK	Murfreesboro	TN	Mesquite	TX	Tacoma	WA
Oklahoma City	OK	Nashville	TN	Mission	TX	Walla Walla	WA
Owasso	OK	Pleasant View	TN	Moody	TX	Appleton	WI
Porter	OK	Woodlawn	TN	New Caney	TX	Darlington	WI
Purcell	OK	Alvarado	TX	Nolanville	TX	Deer Park	WI
Sapulpa	OK	Amarillo	TX	Pharr	TX	Elkhorn	WI
Stillwater	OK	Arlington	TX	Plano	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Tulsa	OK	Austin	TX	Rowlett	TX	Horicon	WI
Claremore	OK	Bastrop	TX	San Antonio	TX	Hudson	WI
Claremore	OK	Beaumont	TX	Seguin	TX	Marshfield	WI
Lawton	OK	Brownsville	TX	Spring	TX	Neenah	WI
Miami	OK	Cameron	TX	Sugarland	TX	Shullsburg	WI
Newcastle	OK	College Station	TX	Sunset	TX	Wilmot	WI
Baker City	OR	Copperas Cove	TX	Temple	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Creswell	OR	Corpus Christi	TX	Texarkana	TX	Orfordville	WI
Hillsboro	OR	Corsicana	TX	The Colony	TX	Charleston	WV
Tigard	OR	Dallas	TX	Three Rivers	TX	Glen Daniel	WV
Baker City	OR	Denton	TX	Uvalde	TX	Grant Town	WV
Erie	PA	El Paso	TX	Waco	TX	Huntington	WV
Minersville	PA	Fort Davis	TX	Watauga	TX	Casper	WY
Philadelphia	PA	Fort Hood	TX	Weslaco	TX	Cheyenne	WY
Ridgeway	PA	Fort Worth	TX	Yantis	TX	Evansville	WY
Seward	PA	Frost	TX	Santaquin	UT	Rawlins	WY
Shenandoah	PA	Gatesville	TX	Chester	VA	Rivertown	WY
Attleboro	RI	Harker Heights	TX	Falls Church	VA	Shelly	WY
North Providence	RI	Houston	TX	Hampton	VA	Sheridan	WY
Pawtucket	RI	Hurst	TX	South Chesterfield	VA	Shell	WY
Warwick	RI	Irving	TX	Stafford	VA		
Charleston	SC	Kempner	TX	Vienna	VA		
Florence	SC	Kennedale	TX	Virginia Beach	VA		
Piedmont	SC	Kileen	TX	Williamsburg	VA		

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOU:

We welcome another group joining our ranks: **PS4SF knitter/crocheter Mary Lou Reed, who leads the Union Chapel United Methodist Church's group from Union Grove, Alabama**, joined us on February 1, 2013. Although our need to send to Dover is down, we will always take another group in this ministry. But, we still hope the purpose of our ministry will gradually fade away! In the meantime, welcome ladies from Union Chapel! You will love their group's name! Below is Mary Lou's introduction:

Thank you so much for your web site. We are from the Union Chapel United Methodist Church in Union Grove, Alabama. In August 2012 it was laid upon our hearts to give birth to our prayer shawl group "Needles Clicking for God". We have 13 ladies that share in making theses tangible gifts of love and would love to send shawls at different times for such a great out reach. We make red/white/blue for our vets and would like to include these in the group we send. Again it is such a Blessing to be a part of such a ministry; God has truly blessed us. Thank you for this opportunity to participate.

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Sharon Rosner, who heads the LIFEthreads, Lord of Life Prayer Shawl/Prayer Blanket Ministry at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Memphis, Tennessee, shares some pictures of their active group! This group joined us June 29, 2010. In that time, they have delivered 20 prayer shawls to Dover Air Base! Thank you all for your contagious enthusiasm! You sure look like you have a great time together! Below is an explanation of the group's activities from Sharon:

Here are the pictures of me and my gals and Life-Threads that I have been promising you. First we eat, then start the knitting or crocheting. At the time this was taken, we are helping make flyers for our churches military Christmas tree. We set it up each year with pictures of families, service members, or retired veterans hanging on the tree with patriotic decor and red white and blue lights. The idea is to pick off a card like an angel tree and then bring in a picture of your present serving relative or your retired veteran along with a monetary donation. All proceeds go to the Wounded Warrior Program or camp for military children. Yours in Christ Sharon Rosner

Above right at table from left row then right row: Hope (wearing purple) who just turned 90 and is a terrific knitter! To Hope's left is Siegrid Phillips. Siegrid is from Stugard Germany, she is a WWII survivor. She can speak 3 languages, French, German and English. Then Bonnie Stephens, a master crocheter.

Front right in green is Sandy Land. To Sandy's right is Joan Beatty in blue. She is our organizer. Doris Sass in beige floral print. She is my beginning crocheter. Darleen Sheddin (in red) lives in assisted living. Unfortunately, she took a fall making her bed last week and is in the hospital with a sprained wrist. We are praying for her quick recovery. Finally, last but not least, is Sharon Rosner (in green).

Below near right: Sharon Rosner, crocheting a team spirit blanket for her daughter who is a big Florida. Gators fan (blue, orange & white). Behind Sharon are Jeanne Guenter and Doris Sheddin. Jeanne just lost her younger daughter Christmas week to breast cancer. As Jeanne said to our pastor, God got a special angel that week!

Far right: Making their annual Veterans' Angel Tree



Above Left: Mary Elizabeth Gray, member of Buxton United Methodist Women and crocheter of prayer shawls, Louise Rossiter, and Ken Davenport, pastor of Buxton United Methodist Church. He had just blessed our completed prayer shawls.

Right: Sue Gallagher, member of Buxton United Methodist Women. Sue began our Prayer Shawl Ministry and has completed many shawls. Louise Rossiter is on the right.

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Louise Rossiter, who heads the Buxton United Methodist Women's prayer shawl group from Buxton, North Carolina, shares some of their lovely work with us! Louise's group joined us way back in June 30, 2008! In that time they have sent many prayer shawls to families during our more labor intensive direct contact program, when we wrote post cards to families on our Army causality list. More recently, they have delivered eight prayer shawls to Dover Air Base, and as of late, they made a lovely Gold Star Prayer shawl to share with us! Thank you, Louise, Sue Gallagher, and all of you in this wonderful group! Louise says:



Again, thank you for all you do to keep this ministry effective. Louise V. Rossiter, Buxton United Methodist Women, Buxton, NC

Note: As of this writing, there are about 10 GS ps made and ready to go. If I get any requests, I'll contact you. Thank you everyone for your diligence in this!





PS4FS knitter/crocheter Annette Swartwout, who heads both Rocky Mount United Methodist Church's group in Mooresville, North Carolina and St. Mary the Virgin Church, Falmouth, Maine, shares four thank you notes and the pictures left and below. The first note (see top left photo) is from Cora Hocutt, loving grandmother of CPL Darrion Terrell Hicks, DOD 7/19/2012. The family lives in Raleigh, North Carolina. Cora writes:

Just a note, to let you know I received the Prayer Shawl. It is with a full heart of thanks I send to all. Prayers and blessing I and Darrion's family will continue to ask in you all works. We have not lost the one we love...he's only gone before, where there is everlasting life and sorrows are no more.

The second message is from Cora Hocutt, loving grandmother of CPL Darrion Terrell Hicks, DOD 7/9/12. Cora lives in Raleigh, North Carolina and writes: (see photo left, lower two pictures)

The family of Darrion Terrell Hicks deeply appreciate all acts of kindness expressed during our time of bereavement. Our sorrow has been easier to bear because of the kindness you've shown through love, cards, flowers, visits, personal services, loving expressions and all gifts of the heart. We shall remain forever thankful and we pray God's grace, blessing, peace and love upon you and your family. Cora J Hocutt, Grandmother.

The first message is from Marry Massarelli, proud mother of SSG Anthony Robert Massarelli, DOD 6/24/2012. Mary lives in Hamilton, Ohio, includes

the prayer card in the photo below. She writes:

Please thank your Prayer Shawl group for the beautiful shawl they created for me. The colors are soothing and the texture is calming. Your work is really appreciated. Enclosed are two photos of our son, Robert, and one of his prayer cards. They are my way of sharing him with all of you. Thanks again. Marry Massarelli, mother of SSG Robert A. Massarelli.

The third notes comes from Candy Baker McManigal, proud mother of PFC Cody Glen Baker, DOD 8/3/2011. Candice lives in Holton, Kansas and writes: (1 photo right)

Your thoughtfulness has meant more to me than these few words can express. Thanks so much. The Prayer Shawl is beautiful! Thank you so much. Candy Baker McManigal, Mother of PFC Cody Baker.



The fourth thank you comes from Phil and Berndette Schmidt, parents of SSG Jonathan Schmidt, DOD 9/1/12. They live in Albuquerque, New Mexico and write (1 photo left):

We received a postcard in the mail about a week ago and yes we would like to receive a shawl. Thank you so much for contacting us so that we can have one. My wife, Jonathan's stepmother, and I are so grateful for what all of you do. I had a wake-up call the other day when we attended our Compassionate Friends group meeting. The loss of Jon will never go away and we will wake up every day knowing he isn't coming home. Some days are better than others - today was one of those days. I know he is in a better place and we will meet again, but it should be the other way around. God Bless all of you for your support. We received the shawls today and they are wonderful. Thank you so much for them, they will be cherished immensely. Phil and Bernadette Schmidt, Proud Parents of SSG Jonathan Schmidt, KIA 1 Sept 2012, Batur Village Afghanistan.

