

PS4FS Monthly Newsletter – May/June 2013:

Dear PS4FS friends,

This newsletter combines May and June – as you may remember, my lap top took an unexpected Cape Cod vacation last May, thus, no newsletter! I'd like to inform everyone due to hand surgery early June, I will be unable to respond to your emails till likely mid-June. Please bear with me! Chalk this up to the aging process ladies!

Friends of the Fallen at Dover Air Base have written to us this month. Although they do not need to be supplemented with our prayer shawls, they feel the time may be coming when they will need some more. Please read their notes in the newsletter.

A number of you responded to the Veteran's Home request this past month! Thank you so much! Any time our ministry can spread out to other avenues helping our military families, it's fantastic for all concerned! I am pleased to pass on requests like this – what a wonderful conduit we have become! While these numbers will not become part of our prayer shawl count, they are just as important in the healing, peace, and comfort our work offers. Thank you for all you have done here! If you'd like to send additional prayer shawls to the Veteran's Home, below is the address:

Attn: Elizabeth Ortiz, Administrative Assistant
St. Luke's Hospice House
2455 Black River Road
Bethlehem, PA 18015

These past two months we have had 6 direct requests, including 3 gold star prayer shawls to gold star mothers. Sadly, we also have had requests for military who have returned home and committed suicide. Somehow, suicide strikes us as more ironically tragic and difficult to cope with. I thank all of you for continuing our good work, trying to heal with our busy hands. As usual, when I receive a direct request, I first contact those of you in the same state. If it's for a GS prayer shawl, I have a list of names to contact. If you wish to be added to that list, please let me know. Requests seem to come in clumps – a few one month, then none. Below is the list of names of those who have offered to make GS prayer shawls.

Rachel Eggleston	Gilbert	AZ	
Evelyn Rainey	Bartow	FL	McLeod Memorial Presbyterian Church
Nancy Dew	Ft. Lauderdale	FL	
Cheryl Scallon	Tinley Park	IL	St Julie Billiard Shawl Ministry
Barb Long	Ada	MI	
Mary Ryan Skolasky	Mattawan	MI	
Sandra Koehler	St. Michael	MN	
Louise Rossiter	Buxton	NC	Buxton United Methodist Women
Annette Swartwout	Mooreville;	NC;	Rocky Mount United Methodist Church
	Falmouth	ME	St. Mary the Virgin Church
Carol Weber	Teaneck	NJ	Grace Lutheran Church and Christ Episcopal Churches
	Old Tappan		Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Teresa Knipper	Princeton	NJ	Knitting and Prayer of St Paul's Princeton
Patricia Jones-Williams	Girard	OH	Unity Church Centre
Shirley Osburn	Kettering	OH	Knitters & Crocheters Group of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Debbie Kendall	Katie	TX	Covenant Lutheran Church
Millie Walker	Burkburnett	TX	
Becky Bowers	Charlottesville	VA	Belmont Baptist Church
Kathy O'Bryan	Ferndale	WA	
Katie Charbonneau	Chippewa Falls	WI	Jacob's Well Prayer Shawl Ministry

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:	6,677	<i>Includes Dover prayer shawls (yellow numbers below)</i>
# sent to Dover since inception of program (Sept. 2009):	3,499	
# Prayer Shawl Groups/Individuals:	285	

ARMY'S CASUALTY LIST:

This list allows direct contact with our families. Contact me with the cities, and I'll send you the information. For easy Instructions how to Google a military name and leave a message on the family's "message board" or "guest list", visit our website. **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.

Note: 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.

Hamburg	AK	Laveen	AZ	Murrieta	CA	Salinas	CA
Little Rock	AK	Phoenix	AZ	New Cuyama	CA	San Jose	CA
Monticello	AK	Surprise	AZ	Newman	CA	Tustin	CA
Van Buren	AK	Tucson	AZ	Oak Hills	CA	Winchester	CA
Warren	AK	Winslow	AZ	Ojai	CA	Yuba City	CA
Ashford	AL	Arcadia	CA	Ontario	CA	Aurora	CO
Blountsville	AL	Castaic	CA	Redding	CA	Canon City	CO
Cullman	AL	Cathedral City	CA	Running Springs	CA	Colora]	CO
Grady	AL	Crescent City	CA	Sacramento	CA	Colorado Springs	CO
Huntsville	AL	Cupertino	CA	San Bernardino	CA	Denver	CO
Madison	AL	Delano	CA	San Diego	CA	Fountain	CO
Millbrook	AL	Empire	CA	San Francisco	CA	Fruita	CO
Mobile	AL	Glendale	CA	San Jose	CA	Parker	CO
Oneonta	AL	Hemet	CA	Tehachapi	CA	Salida	CO
Opelika	AL	Hesperia	CA	Ventura	CA	Thornton	CO
Peterman	AL	Huntington Beach	CA	Victorville	CA	Westcliffe	CO
Phenix City	AL	Indio	CA	Vista	CA	Colorado Springs	CO
Russellville	AL	Julian	CA	Walnut	CA	Denver	CO
Wetumpka	AL	Kelseyville	CA	Westwood	CA	Larkspur	CO
Cullman	AL	La Grange	CA	Yucaipa	CA	Madison	CT
Jacksonville	AL	Lake Elsinore	CA	Alameda	CA	Suffield	CT
Oneonta	AL	Lodi	CA	Blythe	CA	Uncasville	CT
Holiday Island	AR	Long Beach	CA	Brawley	CA	Waterford	CT
Florence	AZ	Los Angeles	CA	Citrus Heights	CA	Willimantic	CT
Glendale	AZ	Lucerne	CA	Fullerton	CA	Winsted	CT
Huachuca City	AZ	Menifee	CA	Lucerne Valley	CA	Washington	DC
Kingman	AZ	Moorpark	CA	Riverside	CA	Hockessin	DE

Auburndale	FL	Cascade	IA	Manhattan	KS	Fraser	MI
Boca Raton	FL	Davenport	IA	Milford	KS	Gaylord	MI
Brooksville	FL	Eldridge	IA	Overland Park	KS	Grand Rapids	MI
Clearwater	FL	Fort Dodge	IA	Salina	KS	Grandville	MI
Cocoa	FL	Gilmore City	IA	Shawnee	KS	Granger	MI
Davie	FL	Johnston	IA	Wichita	KS	Harrison Township	MI
Debary	FL	Red Oak	IA	Cloverport	KY	Hazel Park	MI
Grand Ridge	FL	Shenandoah	IA	Alexandria	LA	Kalamazoo	MI
Homestead	FL	Williams	IA	Arabi	LA	Lansing	MI
Hudson	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Fort Polk	LA	Midland	MI
Inverness	FL	Crown Point	ID	Gueydan	LA	Morley	MI
Jacksonville	FL	East Chicago	ID	Haughton	LA	Muskegon	MI
Kissimmee	FL	Jerome	ID	Jonesboro	LA	Owosso	MI
Lakeland	FL	Kuna	ID	Lake Charles	LA	Rochester Hills	MI
Land O Lakes	FL	Lewiston	ID	Leesville	LA	Saginaw	MI
Largo	FL	Preston	ID	Metairie	LA	Saline	MI
Lithia	FL	Twin Falls	ID	Pearl River	LA	Sanford	MI
Lynn Haven	FL	Bonnors Ferry	ID	Port Barre	LA	Shelby Township	MI
Marianna	FL	Jerome	ID	West Monroe	LA	Sturgis	MI
Matlacha	FL	Rupert	ID	Gloucester	MA	Whitmore Lake	MI
Ocala	FL	Aledo	IL	Mansfield	MA	Williamston	MI
Orange Park	FL	Auroa	IL	North Adams	MA	Ypsilanti	MI
Palatka	FL	Berwyn	IL	Springfield	MA	Saginaw	MI
Palm Bay	FL	Carpentersville	IL	Tewksbury	MA	Apple Valley	MN
Panama City	FL	Chicago	IL	Attleboro	MA	Carver	MN
Pembroke Pines	FL	Cottage Hills	IL	Edgewood	MD	Detroit Lakes	MN
Plant City	FL	Effingham	IL	Germantown	MD	Duluth	MN
Port Charlotte	FL	Fox Lake	IL	Glen Burnie	MD	Saint Paul	MN
Riverview	FL	Gurnee	IL	Hagerstown	MD	Columbia	MO
Safety Harbor	FL	Lawrenceville	IL	Havre de Grace	MD	Essex	MO
Saint Petersburg	FL	Moline	IL	Hughesville	MD	Platte City	MO
Tampa	FL	Mount Carmel	IL	Joppa	MD	Union	MO
The Villages	FL	Nelson	IL	Kensington	MD	Catawissa	MO
Valrico	FL	New Windsor	IL	Prince Frederick	MD	Highlandville	MO
Wesley Chapel	FL	North Aurora	IL	Saint Leonard	MD	Baldwyn	MS
Zephyrhills	FL	Oak Park	IL	Silver Spring	MD	Bay Saint Louis	MS
Bartow	FL	Opdyke	IL	St. Leonard	MD	Gulfport	MS
Homestead	FL	Round Lake Beach	IL	Upper Marlboro	MD	Hattiesburg	MS
Jacksonville	FL	Sheffield	IL	Urbana	MD	Kiln	MS
Palm Bay	FL	Springfield	IL	Lisbon Falls	ME	Mooreville	MS
Tallahassee	FL	Waukegan	IL	Ann Arbor	MI	Moss Point	MS
Fort Benning	GA	Xenia	IL	Battle Creek	MI	Philadelphia	MS
Hinesville	GA	La Grange	IL	Boyne City	MI	Union	MS
Rincon	GA	Peoria	IL	Byron Center	MI	Vancleave	MS
Honolulu	HI	Wheaton	IL	Caro	MI	Black Eagle	MT
Mililani	HI	Fort Riley	KS	Cedar Springs	MI	Great Falls	MT
Wahiawa	HI	Independence	KS	Chesterfield	MI	Fletcher	NC
Waianae	HI	Junction City	KS	Commerce Township	MI	Hope Mills	NC
Ankeny	IA	Kansas City	KS	Corunna	MI	Morganton	NC
Bettendorf	IA	Leavenworth	KS	Ferndale	MI	Blairstown	NJ

Jersey City	NJ	Weedsport	NY	Clarksville	TN	San Antonio	TX
Trenton	NJ	Cleveland	OH	Dover	TN	Spring	TX
Albuquerque	NM	Glouster	OH	Elizabethton	TN	Sugarland	TX
Bayard	NM	Greenfield	OH	Franklin	TN	Texarkana	TX
Clovis	NM	Murray City	OH	Memphis	TN	The Colony	TX
Espanola	NM	Washington	OH	Oak Ridge	TN	Three Rivers	TX
Farmington	NM	Checotah	OK	Woodlawn	TN	Uvalde	TX
Las Cruces	NM	Claremore	OK	Alvarado	TX	Waco	TX
Santa Teresa	NM	Durant	OK	Amarillo	TX	Weslaco	TX
White Sands	NM	Edmond	OK	Arlington	TX	West Jordan	UT
Fallon	NV	El Reno	OK	Austin	TX	Chantilly	VA
Henderson	NV	Fort Sill	OK	Bastrop	TX	Williamsburg	VA
Las Vegas	NV	Haskell	OK	Beaumont	TX	Centralia	WA
Reno	NV	Lawton	OK	Brownsville	TX	College Place	WA
Alden	NY	Noble	OK	College Station	TX	Edmonds	WA
Brockport	NY	Norman	OK	Copperas Cove	TX	Lacey	WA
Bronx	NY	Oklahoma City	OK	Corpus Christi	TX	McChord Air Force Base	WA
Brooklyn	NY	Purcell	OK	Corsicana	TX	Olympia	WA
Clarence Center	NY	Shawnee	OK	Dallas	TX	Puyallup	WA
Corning	NY	Claremore	OK	Denton	TX	Seattle	WA
East Atlantic Beach	NY	Lawton	OK	El Paso	TX	Spokane	WA
East Meadow	NY	Miami	OK	Fort Davis	TX	Tacoma	WA
Fort Drum	NY	Newcastle	OK	Fort Hood	TX	Walla Walla	WA
Fredonia	NY	Baker City	OR	Frost	TX	Tacoma	WA
Geneva	NY	Creswell	OR	Harker Heights	TX	Darlington	WI
Getzville	NY	Roseburg	OR	Houston	TX	Deer Park	WI
Loweville	NY	Tigard	OR	Jarrell	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Monroe	NY	Baker City	OR	Kempner	TX	Horicon	WI
New York	NY	Erie	PA	Kennedale	TX	Hudson	WI
Newburgh	NY	Minersville	PA	Kileen	TX	Marshfield	WI
Oswego	NY	Philadelphia	PA	Kyle	TX	Shullsburg	WI
Patterson	NY	Ridgeway	PA	Lamesa	TX	Wilmot	WI
Pittsford	NY	Seward	PA	Little Elm	TX	Hazel Green	WI
Port Henry	NY	Shenandoah	PA	Lometa	TX	Orfordville	WI
Ravena	NY	Uniontown	PA	Mc Gregor	TX	Casper	WY
Rochester	NY	Arecibo	PR	McAllen	TX	Cheyenne	WY
Selkirk	NY	Attleboro	RI	McKinney	TX	Evansville	WY
Troy	NY	North Providence	RI	Mesquite	TX	Rawlins	WY
Tyrone	NY	Warwick	RI	Mission	TX	Rivertown	WY
Walden	NY	Easley	SC	Moody	TX	Shelly	WY
Wallkill	NY	Kershaw	SC	Nolanville	TX	Sheridan	WY
Waterford	NY	Chattanooga	TN	Pharr	TX	Shell	WY

I. COMMUNICATIONS FROM YOU:

PS4FS knitter/crocheter Ellen Powell, who heads the Central Hill Baptist Woman's Missionary Union 10270 in Central Hill, Virginia, personally visited Dover Air Base in April to deliver 18 prayer shawls. I explained to Ellen that Dover has not been accepting prayer shawls for the past few months, but apparently their bundle was accepted, which is wonderful!

II. DOVER PROGRAM:

We received an update in April from Dover's Ellie Dill, Friends of the Fallen's Secretary:

Wanted to keep in touch. We are seeing an increase in Dignified Transfers from this past summer but still (thank God) not like last year. Still have plenty of shawls. Hope you have a wonderful Spring.. Please pass along our hello to everyone at PS4FS. Warm Regards, Ellie, Friends of the Fallen Secretary

On May 17th, Karen Mordus, President of Friends of the Fallen, wrote:

I just wanted to reach out to you to say a quick hello and to update you on status of Friends of the Fallen as well as a request. We are starting to unfortunately pick up now with our fallen coming home. We are getting a lot of family coming to Dover AFB, as well as a lot of Unit Members to pay their respects at the Dignified Transfer of their fallen. So far, we have been able to share the Prayer Shawls with approximately 250 family members since the beginning of this year. We're not running out, but we're getting close. The comments we are receiving are "AMAZING", "SIMPLY BEAUTIFUL", "THESE WERE MADE FOR US?" We proudly display these shawls on our wrought-iron rack by our Grieving Center.

Karen also asked permission to use our name in an article The Fisher House would like to write on their center's prayer shawls – the positive impact the shawls have had on our military families. I am hopeful we will be able to share that article with you.

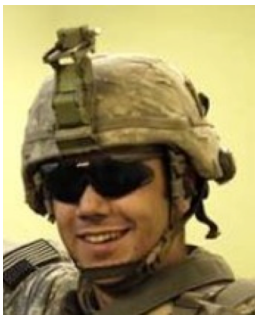
IV. THANK YOU NOTES AND MESSAGES:

PS4FS knitter/crocheter, Lynne Neibert, who heads the Trindle Spring Lutheran Church's prayer shawl group in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, was the first to respond when I received a direct request from Dana Staub, loving sister of SGT Francis Joseph M. Staub, DOD 8/9/05 (notice early DOD). As usual, I wrote to all our groups in Pennsylvania, and Lynne replied within seconds of the email! Carol Hackenberg knitted the prayer shawl which was sent to Dana, who lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Below is Dana's very sweet message: *(no photo found)*

Hello, my mom told me about this web site and showed me the beautiful shawl. I am very interested in one. If because we live at the same address I can't have one ,it's okay, but I just want to say thank you for having this up for the families of the fallen. It's amazing people still have us in mind!

Additional prayer shawls were sent by Lynne's group to the family of SPC Christopher Curtis Simpson, DOD 4/23/13. Gold Star Mother, Kate McLaughlin, lives in Fayetteville, North Carolina and writes: *(3 photos below, including Chris and his fiancée)*

I wanted to thank you for the beautiful comfort shawl you made in memory of my son Christopher. Not a day goes by that I don't think of him and wonder who he would be today. It gives me comfort knowing people who never met those soldiers remember them! I so appreciate it. Gold Star Mom, Kate McLaughlin



Lynne's group received a thank you note from Joan Lukenbill, loving grandmother of SGT Christopher S. Simpson (DOD 3/17/2008). The family lives in Hampton, New York. Joan writes: *(1 photo left)*

Dear Lynne, Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl in honor of my grandson, SGT Christopher S. Simpson. It was a wonderful gesture on behalf of your ministry to do something so special to remember fallen soldiers. I will take great comfort in using it every day. Sincerely, Joan Lukenbill

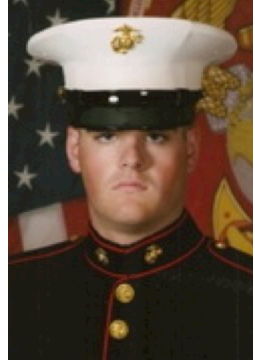


PS4FS knitter/crocheter Nancy Dew, from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, answered a direct request to make a Gold Star prayer shawl for a Gold Star mother. Ronna Jackson, proud mother of SSG John Allen Reiners, DOD 2/13/10, lives in Gainesville, Florida, and writes: (2 photos left)

Hello, My name is Ronna Jackson, I am a Gold Star mom. My son was KIA on 2-13-10. I would like to talk with you in reference of possibly getting a prayer shawl. Your work is so awesome & honorable too. God Bless You! I look forward to hearing from you. Ronna Jackson, Mother of Fallen Soldier SSG John A Reiners, US Army – Ranger

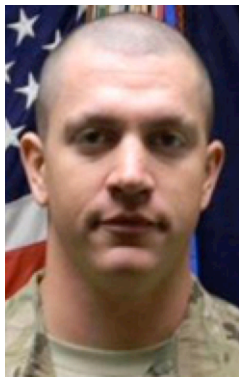
PS4FS knitter Annette Swartwout, who heads two prayer shawl groups, the Rocky Mount United Methodist Church in North Carolina, and while summering in Maine, she also heads St. Mary the Virgin Church's group in Falmouth, Maine, was the first to answer a direct email request for a Gold Star prayer shawl for a mother. Below is a message from Janice McDaniels, proud mother of LCPL Joshua McDaniels, DOD 6/12/11. Janice lives in London, Ohio and writes: (2 photos right)

My name is Janice McDaniels and I lost my son, LCpl Joshua McDaniels USMC on 12 June 2011. I want to know, who do I contact to request a Gold Star Shawl? I have seen other Gold Star Mothers post pictures of these and would love to have one in Honor and memory of my Hero. Thank You, Janice McDaniels GSM



To view the impressive turn out of the local town for Joshua's funeral procession, click below:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3T3vqmo288U>



PS4FS knitter Cheryl Scallon, who heads St. Julie Brillart Shawl Ministry in Tinley Park, Illinois, accepted a direct request for a gold star prayer shawl for the family of ILT Brandon James Landrum, DOD 5/4/13. Pastor Debbie Pratt, Lawton First Assembly, made the request for the family, and plans to deliver the beautiful garment to Jill, Brandon's mother. They live in Lawton, Oklahoma. Brandon is also survived by his wife and a son and daughter. Thank you, ladies of St. Julie Brillart for your wonderful work and love! (1 photo left)