

# Shawletter

## Prayer Shawls for Families of Servicemembers

a network of needle crafters  
ministering to families  
of the fallen. Since 2006  
volunteers have given  
**9,597** handmade prayer shawls.

### 2023 Annual Summary:

In 2023, Prayer Shawls for Families of Servicemembers mailed **915 letters** to family members of 295 fallen servicemembers in 48 states, Guam, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia, inviting them to request Prayer Shawls. In response to requests received, **81 Prayer Shawls** were provided.

Due to a 6 month pause in the distribution of Next-of-Kin lists during a program review, nearly half of the letters were mailed at the end of the year. Prayer Shawls provided in response to requests generated by these letters will be included in the 2024 annual summary.

Additionally, **48 Prayer Shawls** were provided to the **Friends of the Fallen at Dover Air Force Base**, and **26 Prayer Shawls** were given to an **Alabama Veterans Home**

## Stitching & Serving

*Since our last newsletter, shawls  
have been shared with the families  
of these service members:*

**CPL Andy Martinez**  
**LTC Bryan Herzog**  
**PFC Damontrai Mason**  
**SPC Jeremy Evans**  
**MSG Cheryl Harmon**  
**COL Keith Scorza**  
**SGM Shawn Gulley**  
**SSG Johnathon Lawrence**  
**SGT Cade Wolfe**  
**SGT Jacob Baker**  
**SFC Herman Main III**  
**MSG Colin Corrigan**  
**CW2 Shane Barnes**  
**SFC Timmy Underwood**  
**CW2 Ryan Epley**  
**CW5 Julian Evans, III**  
**SSG Bryan Snow**  
**SPC Corey Moore**  
**CPT Zane Pion**  
**SPC Christian King-Cassidy**  
**SPC Brian Snowden**  
**CPT Alex Northrup**  
**MSG Francisco Estrada**  
**SGT Allen White Jr**  
**MSG Ashley Henning**  
**SPC Holland Eakins**  
**SFC Jaime Contreras, Jr**  
**SSG Stanley Perdomo**  
**SPC Jarrett Kotalik**  
**SPC Aaron Rathmann**  
**SGT Ismael Medina**  
**SSG Christian Smith**  
**MSG Carlos Chalacan Valenzuela**  
**CPT Alan Elliott**  
**MSG James Lasher**

*Please keep these families  
in your prayers.*

**From a Wife in Georgia:**

Thank you for the work that you do.

**From a Wife in Tennessee:**

Thank you for the letter and the opportunity to receive a shawl.

**From Parents in Ohio:**

Thank you so much.

**From Parents in**

**Oklahoma:** Thank you.

**From a Mother in Iowa:**

I would greatly appreciate a shawl.

**From a Mother in Illinois:**

Thank you.

**From a Mother in**

**Kentucky:** Thank you for your kindness forever grateful

**From a Mother in West**

**Virginia:** Thanks so much for all you do!

**From a Wife, Daughter and two Sons in Ohio:**

Thank you all so very much!

**From a Wife in Texas:**

Thank you. Your kindness and sympathy is greatly appreciated.

**From a Father in New**

**York:** Thank you very much!

**From a Mother in Florida:**

Thank you for all you do and your support for families.

**From a Mother in Arizona:**

Thank you for your kindness in providing this service.

**From a Mother in New York:**

I received your letter and I thank you for your kind words and offer for a handmade prayer shawl. My son enlisted in the US Army at age 18 and served in the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. He was always an honorable and patriotic person, even as a young child. Sadly, he passed away at the young age of 23 while he was in training at Explosive Ordnance School. He was an amazing person and the world was a better place because of him. I am shattered by the loss of my beautiful boy. I am grateful for your prayers and kindness. I looked through your website and was impressed by your loving mission.

I saw the Prayer Shawl Directions for the Dover Gold Star Flag Prayer Shawl and it brought me to tears with its beauty. Being a Gold Star Mother is something I never wanted to be. It is every military mother's worst nightmare, but now I am living it. All I can do now is continue to honor my son and his sacrifice. I would be grateful if someone was willing to make a Gold Star prayer shawl in his honor, but more importantly, to say his name while crafting it, and to say a prayer that he will be forever remembered. That would be a gift to this Gold Star Mother's broken heart.

Thank you and God bless you.

# THANKS & THOUGHTS

**From a Son in Maryland:**

Thank you very much!

**From a Wife and Children in Arkansas:**

Thank you so very much! The kids and I are looking forward to seeing them.

**From a Daughter in North Carolina:**

Thank you for all you do for our fallen soldiers community. I am hoping a prayer shawl will be provide comfort for my family during this difficult time of loss. May God bless you and the prayer shawl needle crafters. Thank you.

## Privacy Reminder

In order to continue receiving name and address lists of family members of fallen servicemembers from the Department of Defense, we agreed that the name(s) and address(es) would only be shared with the individual/group providing Prayer Shawl(s), and that information would not be provided to others.

Thank you for your help honoring this agreement.