



SEPTEMBER 2026

The Power of Being Seen

I have come to believe that one of the most powerful things we can give another person is the feeling of being seen. For Service Members and Veterans, that can carry a special meaning. We often thank them for their service. We display their flags, shake their hands, and recognize their sacrifices on important occasions. But receiving a nomination for an award is different. It is personal. Someone took the time to stop, remember, and say, “What you have done matters to me.” That is at the heart of our mission.

We believe recognition is not about creating another trophy or adding another name to a list. It is about creating a moment in which a Service Member or Veteran can see their own contribution through the eyes of the people whose lives they have touched.



A nomination tells a story. It may come from a family member who knows the sacrifices made behind closed doors, a colleague who witnessed extraordinary dedication, a neighbor who benefited from a Veteran’s quiet commitment to the community, or simply a citizen who believes someone’s service deserves acknowledgment. Those stories matter because Service Members and Veterans are often accustomed to giving without asking what they will receive in return. Recognition gives something back—not as payment for their service, but as an expression of gratitude from the people they served.

Our mission is not simply to honor a person for what they did years ago. It is to connect their service to the lives they have influenced and to let them know that their contribution continues to matter. Because sometimes, healing begins with something remarkably simple: knowing that someone noticed. Ultimately, that is the mission—to make sure those who gave so much know that they are seen, valued, appreciated, and remembered.

Kryste M. Wallen, Executive Director

Our Mission: to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war in comforting and healing Quilts of Valor®.

Mark your Calendars

FOR UPCOMING QOVF® EVENTS



November 2026 - QOVF® Fall 2026 Online Quilt Auction, November 16-22.
More information will be available in October.



January 2027 - Block of the Year Announcement.



February 2027 - QOVF® National Sew Day.

2026 Original Sewing & Quilt Expo

Don't miss these exciting opportunities to learn new techniques,
shop the latest tools and fabrics, and be inspired!

Event Dates and Locations:

Nashville–Lebanon, TN | October 1–3

Cincinnati–Sharonville, OH | October 15–17

Detroit–Novi, MI | November 6–7

Click here: <https://www.sewingexpo.com/Events> for more
information and to register.



**Photo Submitted by Karen Demaree,
Wisconsin State Coordinator**

Kansas City: Karen Demaree, Wisconsin
State Coordinator, presented Kenneth M.
with his Quilt of Valor®.

Awards by Columbine Quilt Guild

Peggy Rogers, Group Leader of Columbine Quilt Guild

On September 12, the Columbine Quilt Guild held its third ceremony of 2026, honoring two veterans with Quilts of Valor. We were honored to present quilts to Cpl. Robert H., United States Marine Corps, and SrA Sam S., United States Air Force. Family and friends joined Robert and Sam to celebrate their service and this meaningful recognition.

Cpl. Robert H. served during the Gulf War, Desert Shield, and Desert Storm as a 2311 ammunition technician, responsible for receiving, storing, issuing, inspecting, and managing conventional ammunition, guided missiles, explosives, and toxic chemicals. He spent one year as driver for Col. Jack Kelly, Commander of the 1st Supply Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group (now the Marine Logistics Group). Robert also served aboard the USS Durham, an amphibious cargo ship later decommissioned and sunk during a live-fire training exercise. He received two Meritorious Masts and the Good Conduct Medal during his time in the Marines. Robert exemplifies the spirit of the Quilts of Valor® program - honorable, respectful, kind, loving, and deeply humble - dedicating his life to serving others without seeking recognition.



SrA Sam S. served during the final years of the Vietnam War, from 1971 to 1975. His Air Force assignments included Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota, Francis E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and Elmendorf AFB in Anchorage, Alaska. During his two years in Alaska, Sam worked as the hospital's head cook, and his family was able to join him there, a time he recalls with great enthusiasm. His Air Force experience inspired a lifelong career in the service industry, where he became an Operations Manager for a large cleaning company that serviced aircraft cabins between flights.

Photo: L to R: SrA Sam S. and Cpl Robert H.

AQS QUILTWEEK 2026

Thank you to everyone who traveled to the American Quilter's Society (AQS) QuiltWeek shows this year and visited the Quilts of Valor® Foundation exhibition featuring 25 quilts! We're grateful to everyone who stopped by, supported our mission, and celebrated these beautiful quilts honoring our Service Members and Veterans.

Planning to attend a 2027 show? Learn more about upcoming AQS QuiltWeek events: [AQS QuiltWeek 2027](#)

Watch the AQS Quilts of Valor Playlist: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhlBfeC9BT7WGXl8tJTk4PK_7fC5x0D_A



500th Quilt Awarded

Submitted by Betsy Krager, Group Leader of Delta County Quilts of Valor®

Our Quilts of Valor® group proudly celebrated the awarding of our 500th quilt on Sunday. Delta County Quilts of Valor, based in Cedaredge, Colorado, began in September 2015 with just four quilters and has since grown to a dedicated team of 30 members who meet twice a month to sew quilts for local service members and veterans. With many Delta County quilters present, along with friends and family of Erron F., we were honored to present him with a quilt recognizing his service in the United States National Guard. Erron began his career in 2008 as a medic in training and served one tour in Afghanistan. He continues to serve today and plans to retire after completing 25 years of service. Erron's three young daughters nominated him for a Quilt of Valor® at last year's Applefest event in Cedaredge. He has continued his education in the medical field and now serves as a physician at Delta Health.



500th Quilt

Submitted by Cindy Newland, member of The Tyler Rose Quilter's for Valor

Since our first award ceremony on September 9, 2022, the Tyler Rose Quilters have awarded 507 Quilts of Valor®. What began as the dream of a small group of ladies has grown into a vibrant organization with 47 active members, most of whom also belong to the Quilt Guild of East Texas. The group hosts at least one award ceremony each month, sometimes more, and members create beautiful quilts both at home and during bi-monthly Sew Days, where they share ideas, laughter, food, and fun. On August 29, 2026, the group proudly presented its 500th quilt to Sergeant Leverance S., U.S. Army. Sergeant Leverance served in Vietnam, where he was injured and received the Purple Heart. The Tyler Rose Quilter's for Valor were deeply honored to say, "Welcome Home."



QOVF® Shop Items Available for Purchase

Looking for meaningful ways to support the Quilts of Valor® Foundation while enjoying exclusive products created for our members and supporters? Visit the [QOVF Shop](#) and explore these special offerings!

Exclusive QOVF® x Authentically American Collection

Exclusive apparel and accessories from Authentically American, a veteran-owned, American-made apparel company.

Available items include:

- [QOVF Logo Baseball Cap](#)
- [Log Cabin Socks](#) featuring the 2025 QOVF® Block of the Year.
- [Ohio Star Socks](#) featuring the 2024 QOVF® Block of the Year.

Made in the USA from premium North Carolina cotton, these limited-edition socks celebrate quilting traditions while supporting the mission of the Quilts of Valor® Foundation.

All-Star Quilts of Valor®, 2nd Edition: 37 Patriotic Patterns

This book features 37 patriotic quilt patterns from designers and provides quilters of all skill levels with the tools to create meaningful quilts honoring our nation's veterans and service members.



Pricing: **\$29.99 each.**

Shipping and handling: **\$7.95 per order.**

Purchase online [here!](#)

Members-Only Case Pricing

Books are also available to members by the case:

\$320.00 per case | 16 books per case

Perfect for group purchases, workshops, sew days, and educational events!



12 Quilts of Valor Pattern Pack by Villa Rosa Designs

Villa Rosa Designs created a collection of 12 patterns that align with Quilts of Valor® standards, helping quilters create projects that are both beautiful and meaningful.

Purchase the pattern pack through the QOVF® Shop [here!](#)

Quilts of Valor 2026 Challenge Coin

This meaningful keepsake displays the QOVF® emblem on the front, while the back highlights the 2026 Echoes Block design with patriotic detail.



Support Quilts of Valor® Foundation with Ship Thrifty

Ship with ease using Ship Thrifty and support the Quilts of Valor® Foundation at the same time. Through this partnership, every time you purchase a shipping label through Ship Thrifty, 2% of your purchase will be donated to the Quilts of Valor® Foundation to help further our mission of covering Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor®.



Whether you're shipping quilts, quilting supplies, or everyday packages, your shipments can make a difference.

Get started today: <https://app.shipthrifty.com/rf/qovf>

AccuQuilt GO!® 2026 Quilts of Valor® Block

Create a bold, patriotic 12" quilt block with the GO! 2026 Quilts of Valor® Block Pattern. Designed using the GO! Qube Mix & Match 12" Block and created in AccuQuiltable, this pattern delivers precision cutting and easy assembly. It is perfect for QOV® projects or patriotic quilts.

Download the free pattern here: [GO! 2026 Quilts of Valor Block Pattern](#)

Janome 3160QOV Quilts of Valor Edition Sewing Machine



The Janome 3160QOV Quilts of Valor® Edition Sewing Machine was designed with quilters in mind and inspired by the mission of the Quilts of Valor® Foundation. This

full-featured machine offers 60 built-in stitches, 6 one-step buttonholes, Janome's Superior Plus Feed System (SFS+), an automatic thread cutter, memorized needle up/down, speed control slider, and a convenient extension table—all in a lightweight machine that weighs just 12.6 pounds, making it ideal for classes, retreats, and sew days. It also includes a Quilting Attachment Kit.

Take advantage of this great option for your quilting projects and learn more about the Janome 3160QOV [here!](#)

Fat Quarter Shop

Fat Quarter Shop is committed to serving the quilting community by providing a wide selection of high-quality quilting fabrics, patterns, notions, and inspiration. Through its ongoing support of the Quilts of Valor® Foundation, Fat Quarter Shop helps quilters create meaningful quilts.

Looking for your next Quilt of Valor® project? Fat Quarter Shop offers several free patriotic quilt patterns.

[Explore and learn more here!](#)

QOVF® Member-Only Specials

Specific information for these member-only specials is available when you sign in to the Member Dashboard and visit the Member-Only Specials or Member Information sections.

Fons & Porter: QOVF® members can subscribe to Love of Quilting magazine for just \$15, a savings of 75% the cover price.

Legit Kits: QOVF® members receive an exclusive 10% discount Land of the Free pattern. The member discount coupon is valid through December 31, 2026.

Marshall Dry Goods, Foust Textiles, and Pellon: Special Quilts of Valor® member pricing is available from Marshall Dry Goods, Foust Textiles, and Pellon. Specific ordering instructions and discount details are available in the Member Dashboard,

Northcott Stonehenge - America 250 Collection

Northcott's Stonehenge America 250 collection is a patriotic fabric line that would make an exceptional Quilt of Valor®. Designed by Linda Ludovico to commemorate America's 250th anniversary in 2026, the collection features rich red, beige, and navy tones combined with historical imagery including American flags, Independence Hall, vintage stamps, maps, excerpts from founding documents, and portraits of the Founding Fathers.



You can explore the collection and locate online or local retailers through Northcott's Product Finder [here!](#)

Connecting Threads Quilts of Valor® Thread Set

Create a Quilt of Valor® with exclusive products developed through our partnership with Connecting Threads. A portion of each sale helps support the mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation.

Quilts of Valor® Thread Set: Quilts of Valor® Thread Set from Connecting Threads features high-quality cotton thread in patriotic colors, this set is ideal for piecing, quilting, and finishing your project. [Purchase your thread set!](#)

Remembrance Wreaths through Wreaths Across America

For more than 30 years, volunteers with Wreaths Across America have come together each December to place remembrance wreaths on the graves of our nation's veterans, ensuring their service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

National Wreaths Across America Day will be observed on **Saturday, December 19, 2026**. We invite you to help honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or attending a local ceremony with family and friends.

Learn more about the program and find participating locations [here!](#)

You can also sponsor remembrance wreaths through local Quilts of Valor® groups participating in Wreaths Across America events. Many participating groups are listed on the Wreaths Across America [website](#).

Press Release for Jeff W. and Robert M.

Submitted by Debbie Hudepohl, member of Grateful Quilters of Ohio Group

On July 10, 2026, the Grateful Quilters of Ohio proudly presented Quilts of Valor to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jeffrey W. and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert M.. Both men served together in the U.S. Army Military Police Corps and later as partners in the Columbus Police Department in Columbus, Ohio. They are warrior-soldiers and law-enforcement professionals devoted to protecting military formations and civilian communities at home and abroad. There is no higher calling than to assist, protect, and defend fellow soldiers, their families, and the ideals of our Constitution that safeguard our freedom and the American way of life.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jeffrey W. served in the U.S. Army for more than 30 years, beginning in 1981. His tour of duty took him to Baghdad, Iraq, where he was assigned to Anti-Terrorism Operations and Force Protection Operations. During his distinguished career, he received both the Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert M. served in the U.S. Army from 1981 to 2003, with assignments at Fort Hood, the Military District of Washington, and Baghdad, Iraq. He also worked in Anti-Terrorism Operations and Force Protection Operations, earning the Bronze Star Medal for his service in Iraq.



Caption for photo: Jeffrey W. is on the left, Robert M. is on the right.

Spokane Group Panel Challenge

Submitted by Diane Watters, Group Leader of Greater Spokane QOV® Group

Every spring, our Greater Spokane Quilts of Valor® Group offers a Panel Challenge to members. Participants receive a patriotic quilt panel and are asked to create a quilt top. In previous years, each panel was different, but for 2026 we chose to feature only the QOVF® America 250 panel. Nine members participated in this year's challenge. Alongside our QOV® banner, the completed quilt tops were displayed at The Quilting Bee in Spokane Valley for People's Choice voting during the week of the July 4th holiday. This event provides a wonderful opportunity for our group to showcase Quilts of Valor® and creates a beautiful patriotic display in the shop for Independence Day.



Diane Cooper #1, Ginny Andersen #2,
Colleen Mussetter #3



Mary Sieler #4, Charlene Beck #5,
Marilyn Frei #6



Winifred Daisley #7, Donna Rubley #8,
Jan Falconburg #9



AND THE WINNER IS #4 by Mary Sieler!

Veterans Awarded Quilts of Valor®

Submitted by Helen Bailey, member of Jefferson City Quilters

Jefferson City Quilters made a special veteran award presentation on Saturday, July 18, 2026 at the First Methodist Church in Jefferson, City, TN. In commemoration of the 250th birthday of the USA, several fabric lines have created special fabrics for the occasion. Jefferson City Quilters made quilts from these fabrics. Twelve veterans received quilts, and the sanctuary was filled with family and friends in support of the veterans.

The Jefferson City group was formed in 2013 and has awarded more than 1,800 quilts throughout the Lakeway area. As most quilters know, lots of love is sewn into each quilt. And, the hope is that the quilt offers comfort and healing and is only a small way to say "Thank You". The ceremony was opened with a special musical presentation made by the Sweet Adelines group The Sapphires.

In the group photo, the 12 veterans are:

**Alex L. - Army, Rachel A. – Navy, Timothy A. – Navy,
Noland W. - Navy, David D. – Army, Michael R. - Air Force
Willard (DJ) J.– Navy, Caleb B.– Army, Jerry T. – Army,
Louis F. - Air Force, William P. – Army, Ronald W. - Army**

Presiding at the podium is Kathleen Van Ordsel, the Jefferson City Quilters group leader.



The Quilts of Valor® Stars and Stripes of Olympia Threads Library Article

Submitted by Sherry Houser, Group Leader of Stars and Stripes of Olympia

The Quilts of Valor® Foundation Stars and Stripes of Olympia, Washington group has been honored to hang 24 Quilts of Valor® in the Lacey Timberland Library for the month of July for the past three years. We work hard all year long to make sure we have enough quilts set aside for the library and also have enough to continue making Quilts of Valor® for the award presentations fulfilling our mission to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor®.

At the library, each quilt has a sleeve pinned to the back. A number is placed at the bottom front corner. This number corresponds to the number in a pamphlet the library puts together for people to read a short write-up about each quilt. It includes the first name of the piecer, the quilter and the name of the quilt pattern. To hang



our beautiful display, several members of our group meet with workers from the City of Lacey. These hard-working individuals use a scissor lift to take our quilts high up the walls where they hang proudly, creating an inspiring tribute to our mission.

It melts my heart, walking the length of the library looking at all the quilts made by the talented members of our group. I am especially proud to be a part of our team and to see my quilt hanging together with the others. This year we had ten quilts created using the Quilts of Valor® Northcott America 250 panel. These panels were created with the Quilts of Valor® logo and will be awarded during an award ceremony in 2026. We are tremendously grateful to the Timberland library, Lacey branch, for providing us the opportunity to be included in the rotation of different arts showcased each month of the year. We are promoting the art of quilting while sharing our Mission with everyone who enters the library.

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Quilts Reported

	2021: 29,302
2012: 6,169	2022: 31,707
2013: 12,314	2023: 37,063
2014: 17,373	2024: 38,029
2015: 18,772	2025: 35,068
2016: 19,051	2026: 21,128+
2017: 24,123	
2018: 30,745	
2019: 33,375	
2020: 22,775	

Total: 457,107+

(from date of first recorded
award through
August 30, 2026)

QOVF® Core Values

Treating people with respect • Promoting excellence • Valuing service over self • Being accountable

QOVF® Founder and Board Member Emeritus

Catherine Roberts

Board Member Emeritus

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For more information go to [QOVF.org](https://www.qovf.org)

For more information about how to contact
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ONE NATION. ONE MISSION.®

Newsletter

Kryste Wallen, Editorial Director
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