



Calling all Angels



Soldiers' Angels

"May No Soldier Go Unloved"

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Letters ~ A Tangible Connection from Home

When you adopt a service member for the first time, writing a letter to a perfect stranger may at first feel daunting to an angel-in-training. Holly Aho, a seasoned Angel, gives some great tips from her blog: www.sablogs.com.

Introduce yourself: Tell them a little about yourself such as your age, name, where you are from, kids, pets, job, whatever you'd like to share. This will allow them to have a visual image of who is writing to them.

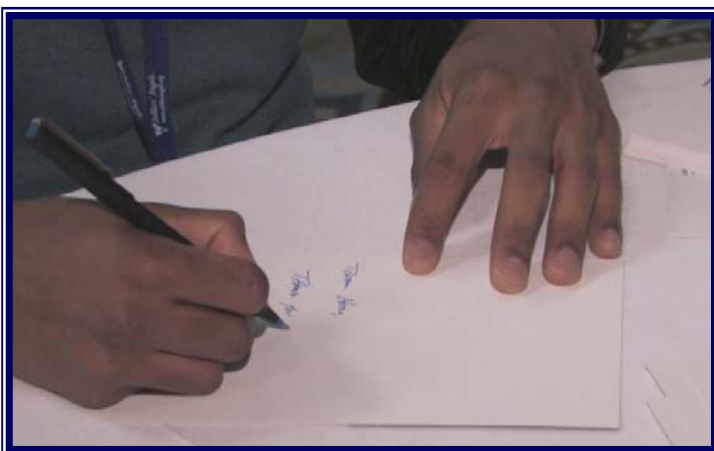
Add a few words of encouragement and support: Holly usually writes a few sentences thanking them for their sacrifice and service.

Pretend you are writing to a close friend; make it personal: Ignore the fact that you just introduced yourself in the paragraphs above. Write about your good or bad day, what you did last week, what your kids are doing, include a joke, whatever. The service members love to hear about the "day in and day out" stuff that we take for granted.

Ask a few questions: Holly usually says something like, "I know you are busy, but if you have time to write and would like to send me a letter, I'd love to hear from you." Then she asks them a few questions such as where they are from, what their job is and how they like it, whether or not they need anything and she always asks when their birthday is so she can send them a card and present for their birthday.

An Angel Peek

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The last things to do before you close your letter or send off your care package: Enclose a self-addressed note-card inside. This allows the service member an opportunity to immediately thank you or to let you know they received your note or care package. Often our service members do not have access to thank you notes nor the time it takes to round one up. Save them this time and do it for them.

You are now armed with the practical information you'll need to get started. Just remember this - their loneliness is more important than your shyness. **Get over it and do it for them.** The ONLY wrong move you can make is to do nothing.



The Voice of the Angels

Hello Angels,

I would like to take this time to announce some changes in our leadership that will allow us to operate in a more efficient manner within our organization.

Vice President Bonnie Averett - Veterans Affairs Team

Vice President Beth Baker - Community Team Leaders and Events

Vice President Joanna Frasier - Convention

Vice President Debby Frerichs - Development, Grants and Major Donations

Vice President Dee Jerge - Sewing Team

Vice President Laurie Martin - Angel Store, SA Forum and Angels

Vice President Lisa Nyberg - Soldier Support

Vice President Maryann Phillips - Germany Medical Team

Vice President Lynette Roncin - United State Medical Team

Vice President Caren Vink - Administration, Top Knot, E-Voice and Living Legends

The e-mail addresses for these amazing women in Soldiers' Angels Leadership can be found in the **contact section** of our website: www.soldiersangels.org. Thank you so much for continuing to stand *wingtip to wingtip* in support of our brave deployed and wounded service members and their families, as well as our returning vets and assisting them in the reintegration into what now becomes their new normalcy.

Let's get back to work Angels, we have a large and loving mission to tend to!

Angel Hugs,

Patti Patton Bader

Relationally Speaking

Hello Angels,

Starting with the April 2008 newsletter, I am making some modifications to what Soldiers' Angels will be sharing on a monthly basis. The newsletter will be about 14 pages long, allowing each of the Vice-Presidents a page of story highlights from their teams. They will choose what stories they will share each month, giving us a greater balance of information. The other pages will be a report from Patti and the Soldiers' Angels Board of Directors and any additional stories that are especially a needed focus.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated board for serving in the capacity of activism and professionalism that they do. Cheers to Patti Patton-Bader, Mark Concialdi, Jim Riley, Ricky John, Robin Bateman, Anna Marie Smith and Donald MacKay. Also huge kudos to our unsung (that does sing) hero: Jeff Bader. He does so much behind the scenes for Soldiers' Angels, including the design and setup of our lovely new traveling Soldiers' Angels Museum. This is a beautiful tribute to our organization and all of our heroes.

Thanks to all of you serving our *champions of freedom* with so much tender loving care!

Shelle Michaels, National Communication Officer

Your ideas and comments are encouraged– shellemichaels@msn.com

First Response Backpacks @ www.angelsstore.org



The U.S. Military provides what can only be described as extraordinary care to our wounded military personnel. No expense is spared to treat a wounded service member.

When our wounded arrive at these hospitals they often have only what they were wearing in the battlefield and considering they were injured, it usually is not in very good condition. It can take up to a couple of days before they receive replacement supplies and it is often weeks before their belongings catch up to them.

Soldiers' Angels has put together a backpack which can be given to each wounded soldier as they arrive at the combat support hospitals in Iraq and Afghanistan. These backpacks ensure that our wounded soldiers have a little love from home to comfort them until their family can reach them and/or they return to the states.

This backpack fully unzips for easy access and includes:

- (1) T-shirt
- (1) Knit shorts or pajama bottoms
- (1) Boxer shorts
- (1) Pair of white crew socks
- (1) Hygiene Kit with: Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Mouthwash, Deodorant, Disposable Razors/Shave Cream, Shampoo/Conditioner, Comb, Hand Lotion, Anti-Bacterial Wet Wipes, and Nail Clippers.
- (1) 100 Minutes AT&T Phone Card
- (1) Handmade "Blanket of Hope" created with love by one of our Angels

Optional Add On Items:

- Adaptive Sweatpants & Hoodie Sweatshirt - \$20
- Adaptive Sweatpants, Hoodie Sweatshirt, Shorts- \$26

Your donation will send a backpack directly to a wounded hero in urgent need.

Product Code: SASOLDIER003

Our Price: \$55.00



All purchases made on this site are considered donations to Soldiers' Angels that go directly to supporting our vital mission. All donations to Soldiers' Angels are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Please consult your tax advisor.

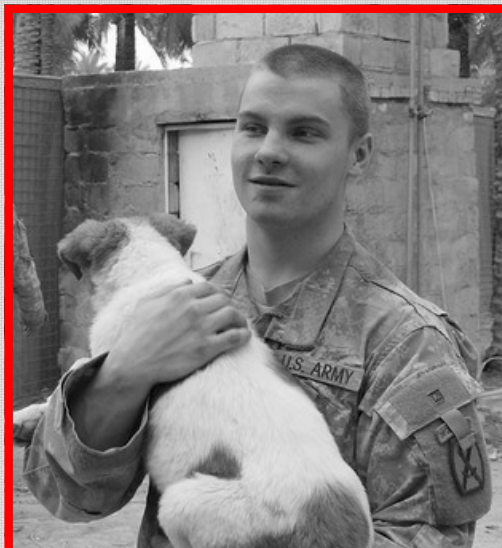
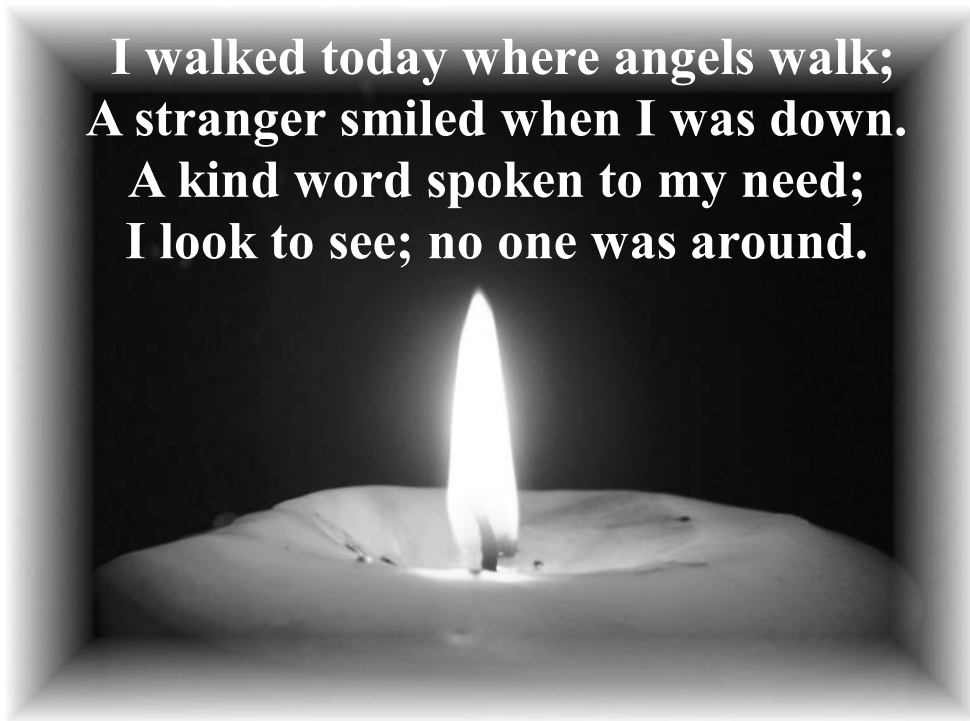
For more information about Soldiers' Angels, please visit our website at:

www.soldiersangels.org



Keep the Candle Burning: Missing in Action

**I walked today where angels walk;
A stranger smiled when I was down.
A kind word spoken to my need;
I look to see; no one was around.**



Spc. Alex R. Jimenez of Massachusetts (right)
and Pvt. Byron Fouty of Michigan (middle) were snatched in a raid on the
10th Mountain Division unit on May 12, 2007 near Youssifiyah.

Sgt. Keith Matthew Maupin (left) of Ohio
has been missing since April 9, 2004.

Angel Board:

Heads Up:

April is Month of the Military Child

May is Military Appreciation Month

Conference:

The 1st Annual Soldiers' Angels Executive Conference in Pasadena, CA on February 20-24, 2008 was a memorable event for all. Thanks to Caren Vink, Robin Bateman and Sara Ehrlich for their time and talent in planning this first time event for Soldiers' Angels Founder, Board of Directors, Vice Presidents, Team Leaders, Heroes and a handful of supporting organizations that were in attendance.

Convention:

There will not be a 2008 Soldiers' Angels Convention. Joanna Frasier and her team are working on BIG plans for 2009. Join the dialogue on the Soldiers' Angels Forum to be the first to find out more about the 2009 event.

If you would like to assist in the planning, please contact: joannafrasier@yahoo.com

Request for More Angels:

If you are like most talented and busy people, your schedule is hectic and unpredictable. You'd like to be able to help an organization, but can't commit to being available at any particular time each week. Having said that, you recognize that everyone, no matter how busy, has at least 15 minutes per week of discretionary time, as long as the timing can be flexible. In fact, maybe you've tried volunteering before but have been discouraged by the experience because your time wasn't used efficiently.

The time is now, don't look any further....

Soldiers' Angels has the perfect volunteer opportunities for young and old alike.....

soldiersangels.org

Soldiers' Angels

*May No Soldier Go Unloved,
May No Soldier Walk Alone,
May No Soldier Be Forgotten,
Until They All Come Home.*

Soldiers' Angels
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