Indiana Coordinator: Christine Hurley

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BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A QUILT OF VALOR

- Fabric used should be high quality 100% "shirt-weight" or "quilt-weight" cotton fabric appropriate for adults.
- While Quilts of Valor do not have to be red, white, and blue, most recipients, given a choice, choose quilts that are patriotic in theme.
- Patterns and blocks can be of any design suitable for a patriotic theme.
- Use of military-branch-specific fabrics (Army, Navy, etc.) or non-"patriotic" fabric (overly floral), unless the recipient is known in advance, may create difficulty in identifying a recipient.
- A Quilt of Valor is to be large enough to cover an average-sized adult, with an ideal size approximately 60" x 80." Finished size can be no smaller than 55" x 65" and no larger than 72" x 90." An easy way to remember is a 5'x7'.
- A Quilt of Valor consists of a top, batting, and backing, and must be machine quilted or hand quilted. A tied quilt is not acceptable for a Quilt of Valor.
- Backings provided to volunteer QOVF-registered longarmers must be 4" larger than the quilt top on all sides (8" wider in width and 8" longer in length than the top). Note: Some longarmers may have different requirements.
- Only member volunteers in good standing can request free-of-charge quilting of their tops by a QOVF-registered volunteer longarmer.
- Batting should be quality, low-loft batting. Quilting should be appropriate for the quilt and not overly dense, which can reduce the loft of the quilt.
- Binding strips should be joined with diagonal seams. Binding should be double-fold ("French fold"), attached by machine, and finished by hand or machine.
- A Quilt of Valor must be labeled as such. Information about making and purchasing labels is in the "QOV Construction Quick Reference Guide"
- A Quilt of Valor may be awarded in a presentation case (pillowcase), though a presentation case is not required. QOVs must have a presentation case when going to overseas facilities, to continuing destinations, or if requested.

- Before awarding, a Quilt of Valor must be machine laundered (gently, using mild detergent) so any bleeding of fabric dyes has occurred prior to awarding, and because some facilities where quilts are awarded require pre-laundering. Use of a "color catcher" that attracts loose dye during washing is recommended.

- A note, card, letter, or journal documenting the creation of a Quilt of Valor may be presented to the recipient along with the quilt.

- Destinations for Quilts of Valor may be requested on the foundation website. To request a destination, click on the "Request a Destination" button on the QOVF website www.QOVF.org.

- Awards of Quilts of Valor are to be reported through the foundation website so quilts are counted. Report quilts as soon after awarding as possible. To report, click on the "Report a QOV Awarded" button on the QOVF website www.QOVF.org.

BACKING & BINDING

- Backings provided to volunteer QOVF-registered longarmers must be 4" larger than the quilt top on all sides (8" wider in width and 8" longer in length than the top). Note: Some longarmers may have different requirements.

- Batting should be quality, low-loft batting. Quilting should be appropriate for the quilt and not overly dense, which can reduce the loft of the quilt.

- Binding strips should be joined with diagonal seams. Binding should be double-fold ("French fold"), attached by machine, and finished by hand or machine.

DESTINATIONS & AWARDING A QOV

Completed Quilts of Valor may be awarded locally to awardees known by the quilt maker or in the quilt maker's community. Local awards, whether made by a local group or directly from quilt maker to awardee, are meaningful both to awardees and those who award quilts.

All awards should be reported on the Quilts of Valor Foundation website. To report, click on the "Report a QOV Awarded" button on the QOVF website. Alternatively, individuals and groups may ask the Foundation to select destinations for completed quilts.

Requests for Quilts of Valor are sometimes referred to as "nominations." Any individual may request a Quilt of Valor for a service member or veteran touched by war. An individual may request a Quilt of Valor for himself or herself.

Confirm that the quilt is completely finished, has been washed, and has a label and presentation case, if appropriate. Presentation cases are recommended for QOVs going to overseas destinations and medical facilities. They may not be needed for local individual or small group awards.

REQUESTING A LONGARMER

A limited number of longarm machine quilters across the U.S. have registered to serve as volunteer longarmers at no charge, or reduced fee

QOVF members in good standing may request a volunteer longarmer by completing and submitting the form below. Be sure the form is complete before submitting.

Once the quilt maker and longarmer have communicated, the quilt maker ships the quilt top and backing to the longarmer. The longarmer contacts the quilt maker within five to seven business days of receiving the quilt top and backing to confirm the package has arrived.

YOUR LOCAL QOV VOLUNTEER PRESENTERS ARE:

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Ask to join one of the presenters, see it done, hear the words and see the reactions from veterans and their families. Become a presenter in your county!

PRESENTATION CASE (PILLOWCASE)

A presentation case is like gift wrapping for a Quilt of Valor. Presentation cases are always required for QOVs going to the overseas destinations and to the medical facilities on our Continuing Destinations List. They are optional for local, individual or small group awards.

YARDAGE	STANDARD	QUEEN	KING	TRAVEL
MAIN PIECE	¾ YARD	1 YARD	1 1/8 YARD	5/8 YARD
BORDER	1/3 YARD	1/3 YARD	1/3 YARD	¼ YARD
ACCENT	1/8 YARD	1/8 YARD	1/8 YARD	1/8 YARD
CUT PIECES	**STANDARD**	**QUEEN**	**KING**	**TRAVEL**
MAIN PIECE	27" x 41"	33" x 41"	37" x 41"	20" x 32"
BORDER	10" x 41"	10" x 41"	10" x 41"	9" x 32"
ACCENT	3" x 41"	3" x 41"	3" x 41"	3" x 32"

2. Lay 10" border piece face up on work surface.
3. Lay main piece of pillowcase face up on top of border piece. (Line up raw edges at top.
4. Press the 3" accent strip in half lengthwise. Lay on top of main piece matching raw edges.
5. Roll the main fabric from the bottom up to keep it out of the way. Bring the bottom edge of the border piece to the top edge, matching and pinning all the raw edges together.
6. Stitch ½ inch seam along the pinned edge. You now have a tube of fabric. Turn the tube inside out and your pillowcase appears with no raw edges showing.
7. Finish the side and bottom seams with a "French Seam." A "French Seam" is done by putting the wrong sides together and sewing a scant ¼ inch seam then putting the right sides together and sewing a ½ inch seam enclosing the raw edges.

MEMBERSHIP

Why should I become a member of Quilts of Valor® Foundation?

Because you share the passion of the QOVF mission to cover veterans and service members touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.

What is the cost to join?

- Individuals join for a $20 annual membership fee.
- Groups join for $30 plus $5 per member annually.

What are the benefits of membership?

For Individuals

- A membership card.
- A Quilts of Valor lapel pin.
- Advance notice of upcoming QOVF special events, monthly specials from QOVF supporting partners, and discounted opportunities to participate in other quilt related events.
- Access to QOVF's Policies & Procedures Manual, including templates for QOV award certificates, QOVF letterhead, and more.

For Groups

- A membership card for each member.
- A Quilts of Valor lapel pin for each member.
- Authorization to raise money, accept donations, and accept non-monetary gifts to meet local needs using the QOVF name. (Note: donations raised are sent in to the foundation's national office for tax recording and reporting, then returned to groups.)
- **Use of 100% of funds raised through an expense reimbursement process.**
- Monthly financial reports on the group's account (donations & expenses).
- Advance notice of upcoming QOVF special events, monthly specials from QOVF supporting companies, and discounted opportunities to participate in other quilt related events.
- Access to QOVF's Policies & Procedures Manual, including templates for QOV award certificates, QOVF letterhead, and more.

ALL MONIES COLLECTED IN INDIANA STAY IN INDIANA IF REMITTED TO QOVF, P.O. BOX 191, WINTERSET, IA 50273. MUST HAVE GROUP #25371