

## FALLEN SOLDIER BANNER

The Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, Department of Washington are assisting Gold Star Families and memorializing our Fallen Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen from Washington State.

A Gold Star Mother, Kim Cole, started this project in 2009 but needed our help to realize the mission of making banners for each of the fallen soldiers from Washington State from the Global War on Terrorism. These banners, forever memorializing the loved ones who have given the ultimate sacrifice to America, are being carried in parades and displayed at other appropriate venues. A magnetic replica of the banner is presented to the Gold Star family at the Time of Remembrance weekend (Richland, Washington) the last weekend in September. These banners have been carried in the Spokane's Lilac Festival Parade, which is a Military Honors Parade, as well as many other parades around the state. We have worked with the Army from Fort Lewis, the Navy from NAS Whidbey Island, and the Naval Base Kitsap to have the banners carried with honor by their brothers and sisters in arms. The reception from the parade attendees is phenomenal and has proven to help the Gold Star Families in the healing process. These banners, forever memorializing America's heroes, are also putting a face to the reality that freedom is not now, nor has it ever been free!

- Each Banner is approximately 2-1/2 ft. x 3-1/2ft. and includes:
  - Large color photo
  - Name including military rank
  - Military branch
  - Dates of birth and death
  - Fallen soldier's hometown

We appreciate the contributions you and your family have made for our country. We would like to create a banner for your loved one. If you would like to participate, at absolutely no cost to you, please provide the information listed above to: LAVFW Dept. of WA. 5213 Pacific Highway East, Fife, WA. 98424. For more information contact:

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