

Happy Holidays!

The "Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund" was founded to honor our service men and women who have lost their lives for our continued freedom. All proceeds and donations are tax deductible under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our mission is to help provide College Grants to surviving U.S. Military children whose lives have been affected by the loss of a parent in the Afghanistan or Iraq wars. Our program has been expanded to include spouses and families of severely disabled OEF or OIF veterans. All proceeds and donations are tax deductible under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. FEIN: 52-2405418

Our second objective is to help the surviving members of these families in need of financial support. Other individuals, firms and member associations offer donations and contributions from fundraising activities held through out the States which enable us to continue our Mission of support. It is our hope and dream that our combined efforts will enable us to give a "gift" back to families affected.

Thanks to the generosity of the public our awards made since January 2005 total \$79,750.00. These awards have provided much needed financial assistance to families with 13 children and include College Grants to 6 surviving spouses and 2 surviving children. We are pleased to report that our admin/management expenses for the year ending 2005 was 3% of total revenues!

We want you to keep you apprised of our efforts, for we owe it all to you! Please continue to keep our service members and their families in your thoughts and prayers and if check our [website](#) for events and information as changes occur. Here is some news that may be of interest to you and others.

[Biking in Tribute!](#)

Coming soon, perhaps to a town near you! John Cook will be starting his trek across the lower half of the United States on 2/5/07. He will be pedaling from Florida to California in honor of our fallen service member families. We are asking for your help with the [Biking in Tribute](#) fundraising event that John is planning. Here is some information about John:

He is 47 years old has an undergraduate degree from Tulane University, New Orleans; attended on a 4-year Air Force ROTC scholarship and a graduate degree: University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

His training includes:

Pilot Training: Class 82-05, Reese AFB, TX

Flew KC-135 Air Refueling tanker aircraft at Robins AFB, GA; Kadena Air Base, Japan; Castle AFB, CA. He was assigned to the dedicated crew for the Commander, USCENTCOM's (United States Central Command) aircraft and then was hired by Northwest Airlines in 1989. John is currently employed as a Captain, Instructor, Check Airman pilot with Northwest

He is a triathlete; on Masters swim team (adult swim team) at his local YWCA; has always been an avid

biker; using his bike for his primary transportation around town; and has taken several bike touring vacations to Hawaii, San Juan Islands (Washington state), and Oregon.

Now here are some thoughts from John:

I've thought about a cross-country bike trip for many years, but not until I talked with a friend who had actually ridden across the States and then found myself with the time, did I think I would ever get the chance to try it myself. I chose the CFSRF as the organization to raise money and awareness for because I so strongly believe in their mission. To begin with, I believe that higher education, whether college or trade school, is extremely important for anyone who wants to have a chance in today's society. Secondly, awarding scholarships to children who have had a parent killed in Iraq or Afghanistan is a tangible way of giving them thanks for the sacrifice that they and their families have made.

I was impressed by the CFSRF's mission: they combined my belief in the value of education with the idea that the children who have lost a parent deserve our country's thanks and gratitude for enduring a loss that very few of us can imagine. A scholarship, of course, will not begin to relieve the pain of losing a parent, but it can give them a boost and assistance in helping them create something good for themselves.

Our society is, I think, far removed from this war because so few of us know someone in the military and because our daily lives have not really been affected in any significant way. I want to raise awareness about some of the effects of the war, but also to raise funds to help those who will, for the rest of their lives, be completely affected by it.

We are asking for help:

- Media that will help spread the word about John's trip; we want this to be a safe and enjoyable trip and hope that support will come from within the communities that this trip will take him through.
- We are asking Corporate, Business and individual sponsors willing to donate or make pledges on John's behalf to do so in advance.
- Hotel or motels able to provide overnight lodging; restaurants, diners and other food establishments that can offer him a nice meal and place to stop and rest.
- Bicycle and Sporting Goods authorities willing to help in any manner that will make this trip more comfortable and less tiresome are asked to make contact with us.
- Patriotic and well meaning people that will rally John on as he travels through their area. Schools, churches, fire departments, local military, police and veterans groups, families, friends...all are invited to pay tribute to our fallen service members.

Also, we could use some volunteers to help get the message out for this and other fundraising events. You may email us at pr@cfsrf.org or John direct at:

bikingtribute@cfsrf.org

Adopt A Family for the Holidays!

CHRISTMAS 2006

Many of our interested donors have asked if we could assist them this holiday season in *adopting a fallen service member's family*. After receiving several requests we have decided to approach some of the families and this is what some of them have said:

"This has been a particularly difficult year for us, so we would really appreciate the generosity that others are showing in this way."

"That would really be great...things have been tight and they are going to get even tighter"....

If you are interested in adopting a family this holiday season by providing them with gifts, assisting them with utility bills or offering any other help, please email Becky at:

Yellowribbon7@msn.com or call (301) 865-6327

These are some of our families:

We have one family in Louisiana that was devastated by Hurricane Katrina with a 3 year old daughter, one in Northern California with three children ages 2, 5 and 9, one in upstate New York with two children; one that lost her father who is 13 with a 1 year old brother, one in Kansas with 3 children; one who lost his father that is 6, one in Florida that has 1 child who will be 3 years old, another in Florida that has 2 children; one who lost his father and is 6 years of age. Some of our surviving spouses and children are attending Colleges or Universities in various States, if you would prefer to provide a gift or gifts for them, we will do our best to arrange that as well.

JAMES 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Contact the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund for further information at info@cfsrf.org or (301) 865-6327