



*“This kit helped take my mind off of things... This craft took my thoughts away from the pain.”*

—Korean War Veteran Dale Johnson

Dear Fellow American,

Dale Johnson served in the Air Force during the Korean War. It was a difficult time in our country’s history, and Dale volunteered two years of his life to fight for our freedom.

I salute this brave sacrifice, just as I salute Dale’s struggle today – only this time the enemy is his health. You see, Dale’s knees aren’t holding up as well as his spirit – he has already had multiple surgeries, and is now waiting for knee replacement surgery – for both knees.

My friend, as you may know, it is a tough thing to go from living a life of independence to one where the simple joy of walking is lost...especially during the holidays.

Receiving a kind word from a donor meant so much to him! Even though you haven’t met, you both have something very special in common – a love of country and a commitment to helping others. That commitment is a very special thing. And kind words from someone like you means an awful lot to someone like Dale, or Michael Mathers.

Michael’s dad, whom he affectionately calls “Pops,” served in the Navy during the Korean War. Michael was proud to follow in his footsteps. He joined the Army and earned the designation of Expert Marksman, serving our country for four years.

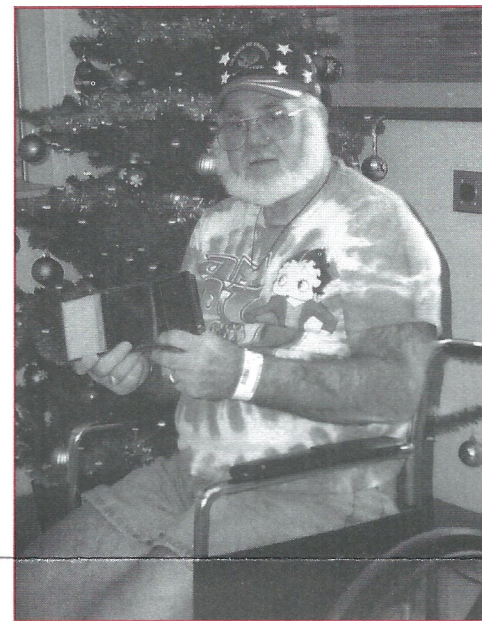
Today, Michael suffers from chronic illness. He spends his days in a Department of Veterans Affairs hospital – days in which the hours stretch out long before him, and can get pretty lonely.

Michael told me about the things that are important to him – life, service to something bigger than himself, family...and you. “I was happily surprised to get a Christmas card from a donor,” he said.

That’s where you come in. Can you spare a holiday gift of \$8, \$16, \$24, or even \$32?

For every \$8, I will attach a post card to a craft kit that will be delivered to a veteran – someone just like Dale Johnson! The craft kits your gift will provide do so much to heal a hurting veteran – it can be so hard to endure a lengthy hospital stay, and so many veterans aren’t as lucky as Michael and don’t have family – or anyone – to visit them.

Over, please



Korean War Veteran Dale Johnson, showing off a completed HHV Craft Kit.



Vietnam Veteran Michael Mathers, in the middle of another HHV Craft Kit!

The craft kits provide much needed relief from boredom and loneliness, but do much more than that, too. They also help the wounded soldiers improve their hand-eye coordination and confidence.

When you can't go outside, even to do something as simple as taking a walk, having an activity at your hands like an HHV Craft Kit is a valuable thing indeed. Your gift today will be giving a veteran the best holiday gift of all – a way to feel alive!

I left room on the enclosed thank you card for you to write your own personal message, too.

Your gift today, along with your handwritten message means that a veteran will receive a personal message from someone who cares. It will make the Craft Kit that much more valuable, because the veteran will know that it comes from a real person.

Helping to ease the pain of America's veterans – that's a mighty powerful thing. And one you have the power to do – just by sending in a simple holiday gift of \$8! (A gift of \$16 or \$24 would really help, too. In fact, for each \$8 you give, a personal card from you will be attached to a craft kit and delivered to a veteran, like Michael Mathers or Dale Johnson – someone who really needs to hear from you.)

The craft kits may contain a leather working kit – Dale is really proud of the wallet he made. It may contain a painting kit, or a kit to make a birdhouse. Each craft kit provides lonely and deserving veterans with a way to feel a lot less lonely. It gives them something to help forget the pain.

No gift is too small. Please reach out to our veterans this holiday season, and help provide them with a few days of joy.

Gratefully Yours,



Roger Chapin  
President and Founder

P.S. Please enjoy the enclosed holiday name labels, my small gift to you. I hope that you think of Michael Mathers and Dale Johnson every time you use them. And please don't forget to send back your signed Thank You card, along with your gift. Your handwritten words really do bring holiday cheer to a lonely veteran!

P.P.S. Please send your gift right away. The sooner we hear from you, the sooner we'll know if we can afford to purchase craft kits for every hospitalized veteran who would like one. It will break my heart to turn anyone away. Please help today. Thank you.

