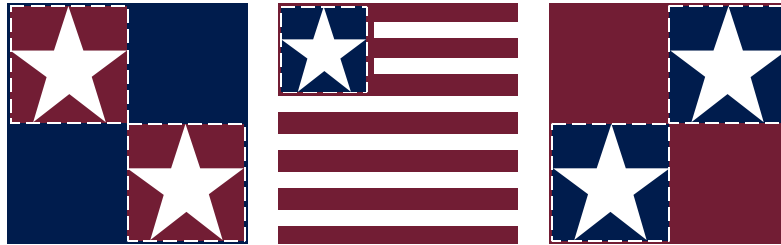


The Pentagon Quilts





Foreword

Inspired by the events of September 11, 2001, seasoned and first-time quilters, young and old alike, fashioned quilts in honor of the lives that were lost, in gratitude for those that survived, and in appreciation for the heroic efforts of rescue workers. The Pentagon Quilt Collection is as diverse as the people who created them. These quilts sprang spontaneously from freedom-loving people in small towns and big cities across the country and the world. Some shout in unity; others whisper in grief. All are and will remain symbols of comfort and encouragement to the Pentagon community and the nation for generations.



Reflective of the diverse and talented people in our Nation, The Pentagon Quilts express varied sentiments of America's young and old with regard to the tragedy of September 11, 2001.

These quilts have been arranged thoughtfully, artfully and with great subtlety. Their representation in this booklet is as one would actually see them exhibited. We have provided a photograph, written summary, and visual details for each of the twelve quilts displayed.

It is true for our Nation through time, epitomized most poignantly on September 11, that America is the foremost democratic society, wherein its whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This booklet, like the exhibit, evokes those feelings of national pride.

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Captain Dex McCain, Major Lesa Spivey, June Forte, Pentagon Quilt Curator, and Captain Matteo Martemucci receive a quilt on behalf of the Pentagon.

The quilt was created by the senior class at Fairborn High School, Fairborn, Ohio.



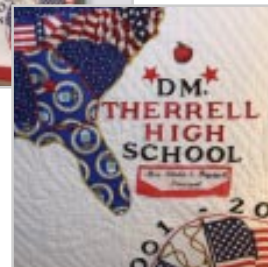
Story Quilt

Marshalltown, Iowa

Patience Jackson, an engineer, was home with her young son on the morning of September 11. She couldn't believe what she was seeing on the television. That evening she told her husband she felt compelled to do something, but what that something was eluded her. It took a few weeks before it occurred to her that what she needed to do was to make a story quilt to try and make sense of the tragedy. She sketched out the events of September 11 and the extraordinary events of prayer and people pulling together that followed and set to work creating this unique and moving quilt.

"Even though I live in Iowa, the tragedy felt like it hit close to home." (Patience Jackson)

Patience Jackson considers the time she spent working on the quilt to be her personal therapy time.



Heart of America Quilt

Atlanta, Georgia

Students of the Academy of Travel & Tourism program at D.M. Therrell High School created this quilt that represents their extensive travel research and their concern for others. It is a demonstration of patriotism and memorializes those who lost their lives at the Pentagon on September 11.

"At a time when youth are 'frequently stereotyped' as non-focused and non-achievers, this quilt is the result of the quality of the 'Character Education' taught at D.M. Therrell High School." (Yvonne Roundtree, coordinator, Academy of Travel & Tourism)

Therrell High School Students and staff presented the Heart of America quilt in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.



American Military Community in Singapore Quilt

Sembawang Military Community, Singapore

Navy, Army and Air Force families stationed in Singapore pooled their creative energy to make this and four other quilts in honor of the victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Families living at the U.S. military community at Sembawang, located on the north side of the island, designed the individual squares. They selected a community project that would be a lasting remembrance for those who were directly affected by the attacks.

“The Sembawang military community partnered up to show victims of the attacks in the States they care, even though they’re stationed on the other side of the world. We wanted to express our sorrow and support in a direct way.” (Chris Wagner, Navy wife and organizer of the quilt project)



Honor Quilt

International Community

Constructed of quilt blocks donated by friends and neighbors of those lost at the Pentagon and on American Airlines Flight #77, this quilt is one of many created through the massive WTC/Pentagon/PA Memorial project (www.wtcmemorialquilt.com). Volunteers from across the country donated the memorial and honor panels. Quilter Patricia Fratis, Santa Rosa, California, assembled the piece.

"Words cannot describe the feeling... reading the stories and seeing the pictures of the special people who lost their lives on September 11." (Amy Leasure, cofounder, WTC/Pentagon/PA Memorial Quilt)



Thank You Quilt

Washington, District of Columbia

Students and faculty of John Tyler Elementary School donated this quilt in recognition of the efforts and sacrifices of those who serve our country. For the past 20 years, Tyler Elementary and Pentagon employees have joined together in the Partnership-in-Education program. Volunteers from the Pentagon tutor and mentor students, participate in school programs, and donate food and gifts during the holidays and celebrations.

"In light of the events of September 11, John Tyler Elementary School's gift expresses the myriad of emotions experienced by the students and faculty, and their strong resolve to carry on with the American way of life." (Captain Rob Romer, Military Equal Opportunity Staff Advisor)

David O. Cooke, the much-loved "Mayor of the Pentagon," who died June 22, 2002 from injuries received in a car accident, accepted the Tyler Elementary School quilt from Principal Joan Kelley and students. Mr. Cooke was the Department of Defense's highest-ranking civil servant.



Memory Quilt

Phoenix, Arizona

The Memory quilt was created by 100 Defense Contract Management Agency workers in Phoenix, Arizona. Although she is not a quilter and doesn't have a sewing machine, Valerie Edwards came up with the idea for a quilt. She had spent the night of September 11 pacing back and forth in her family room, literally wringing her hands and feeling she had to do something to help. The making of the quilt helped the Agency staff focus their feelings of anger and helplessness into something positive.

"We were not in New York or at the Pentagon. We did not lose loved ones, but we share in the collective grief and lost sense of security of the American people. Our greatest hope is that our quilt would help bring hope to those who were so much closer to the September 11 tragedy than we were." (Valerie Edwards)

The quilters donated lunch breaks and weekends to work on the Memory quilt.



Quilt of Caring

East Los Angeles, California

The staff of White Memorial Medical Center, an Adventist Health Institution based in East Los Angeles, California, created the Quilt of Caring. It is made up of 170 felt squares with handwritten messages of support to the people of the Pentagon. Aracely Cantu, Secretary for Nutritional Services, whose husband serves on active duty with the California Air National Guard, supplied the material and sewed the panels together to form the flag.

“Each piece of the quilt represents a piece of our hearts to you.” (Paul Crampton, Director of Chaplaincy Services, White Memorial Medical Center)

From the west coast to the east, the White Memorial Medical Center caregivers send their thoughts of healing across the country.



Hillcrest Elementary School Quilt

El Reno, Oklahoma

More than 400 students, pre-schoolers through fifth graders, and faculty and staff of Hillcrest Elementary School, made this quilt with tribute and condolence in their hearts and minds. They thought the Flag of the United States and the Pledge of Allegiance were the perfect symbols for a grade school.

"We feel so blessed to have the chance to do something for someone else." (Susan Van Gundy, teacher)



Healing Hands Across America Quilt

USA

The Rosquilters are fans of the TV show "Roswell." They have become great friends over the Internet and live throughout the country. As these Roswellians witnessed the horror of September 11 unfold, they longed for the power to heal those who were suffering. The significance of the handprint on the quilt is twofold—first, the alien character Max in "Roswell" uses his hand to heal people, leaving a silver handprint on the person's body; and second, the hand symbolizes love and caring. The Rosquilters extend their hands in gratitude and thankfulness to all that were in harms way on September 11.

"May God bless America as we reach out to one another with a healing touch." (Rosquilters)



United Hand In Hand Quilt

Williamsburg, Virginia

For the month of September, the 1st grade classes at Matthew Whaley Elementary School were studying citizenship and the symbols of America. After the terrorist attacks, the children discussed several ideas for honoring the people who lost their lives at the Pentagon and decided on a quilt. According to their teachers, Ms. Bonnie Mayo and Mrs. Karol Roehr, September 11 has made them all more aware of their blessings and the needs of others. With the encouragement and support of Principal Andrew Jacobs, faculty, staff and parents, the children put a lot of time, effort and pride into their quilt project.

"Even a small boy and girl understand what our country stands for and want to be a part of the healing and rebuilding process. It's a great time to be an American and a teacher." (Bonnie Mayo, teacher)



United We Stand Quilt

Springfield, Virginia

This quilt is a gift from Cardinal Forest Elementary School in Springfield, Virginia – home to many Pentagon employees. Originally the students were going to draw pictures on brown lunch bags and present them to the rescue and repair workers at the Pentagon. When Barbara Grimes, a counselor at the school and quilting hobbyist, saw the artwork, she felt it needed to be preserved. Sixty students from the second through sixth grades participated in the quilt project, which was one of the first ones to arrive at the Pentagon. With the terrorist attacks fresh in their minds, the children's pain and confusion is evidenced in many of their drawings.

“The emotions the students felt after the terrorist attacks were so overwhelming. That they were able to do something to express both their sadness and support made them very proud.” (Barbara Grimes, counselor)



Proud To Be An American Quilt

Falls-Lenox Primary School, Olmstead Falls, Ohio.

Upset by the events of September 11, the students of Falls-Lenox Primary School wanted to do something to show they cared, but they knew they were small and doubted that anything they could do would help. After talking about what would make them feel better, many of the children said that they are comforted by a loved one holding them or cuddling up in a warm “comfy” blanket. This quilt is their way of putting their arms around all the people of the United States, comforting them, and telling them that they are sorry, that everything will be all right, and that they love them very much.

“We are proud of all the firefighters, fire dogs, police men and women, and our armed forces for keeping us safe and making things right again for everyone in the world. They are truly our heroes!” (Mrs. Sharon Shea, whose 2nd grade class initiated the Proud To Be An American quilt)



Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) is an independent, nonprofit, applied research and development organization providing management and technology based solutions to a wide array of clients representing state and federal government and the private sector. CTC has offices throughout the United States with a staff of over 1,100 employees. Visit CTC's Web site at www.ctc.com.

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