



Department of Minnesota
November 2025 Unit Mailing
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation,
Chairman Linda Kelly

Quilts of Valor is a project under the VA&R Program. *Their mission is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing quilts of valor.* The foundation quilters have been busy little “sewing bees” since 2003 when it was first organized by Catherine Roberts, whose son was deployed to Iraq.

Ms. Roberts set up rules for the quilts. They are made of high-quality material that is hand or machine quilted – not tied. Their website at www.qovf.org provides a lot of information for our quilters. (Be sure to use “Q” not “G”, as I did the first time.) There are memberships available and thirty or so quilt patterns are shown.

I have seen our veterans’ faces when that blanket is wrapped around them. The smiles and the tears tell it all. My hope is that those of you that quilt will consider creating a quilt to award to a veteran of your choice. If you belong to a quilting group, please share this information with them – maybe it could be a group project. If your unit doesn’t have any quilters, maybe you can donate money towards material for a group.

Please let me know if you or your group complete a quilt of valor and award it to a veteran. I would appreciate a picture of the presentation. All names will go into a drawing to be drawn on March 31, 2026, as I want to include the winner in my annual National report. You never know if we may see our quilts of valor on the big screen at National.

I will give the book, “Quilts of Valor: A 50 State Salute Book” to the drawing winner. I have not seen the book yet, but I understand that it gives history of military quilts, features a Quilt of Valor for each of our 50 states, and features 16 quilt patterns. So, please get sewing.

The comment that I appreciated from the website is that “Without words, a quilt of valor says, ‘Thank you for your service, sacrifice and valor in serving our nation.’”

Thank you, Karen Foss, for creating gift tags for our gift shop this December. And, she has agreed to do the same for next year. **Please keep any non-religious Christmas cards so she can recycle them into tags for our veterans. They can be dropped off at any ALA event.**