

Quilts of Valor

Quilts of Valor Foundation awards quilts to military service members and veterans who have been touched by war. QOVF does not provide quilts to organizations for permanent public display or to serve as bed covers for hospital beds. A Quilt of Valor is a lifetime award and is a tangible reminder of an American's appreciation and gratitude. You can read more about the foundation on their website: www.qovf.org.

Members are asked to make a Quilt of Valor to be displayed at our quilt show and then donated to a veteran. Cindy Simmons has volunteered to chair this project (thank you, Cindy) and will work with local veteran organizations to assure that our quilts are distributed locally. If a guild member is a veteran or has a veteran in the family who would like to receive a Quilt of Valor, let Cindy know and she will put you on the list. Awards of Quilts of Valor are to be reported at the Foundation website (so if you do one on your own please go to the website).

The foundation has some guidelines for Quilts of Valor. You can see the entire list and explanations of each item on the website, but in summary and paraphrased:

- Fabric should be quality 100% cotton appropriate for adults
- The ideal size is approximately 60" x 80". Finished sizes can be no smaller than 55" x 65" and no larger than 72" x 90".
- Quilts do not have to be red, white and blue, though most recipients, given a choice, choose quilts that are patriotic in theme
- Patterns and blocks can be of any design suitable for a patriotic theme
- Use of military-branch-specific fabrics (Army, Navy, etc.) or non-"patriotic" fabric (overly floral) create difficulty in determining a destination
- Quilts must be machine or hand quilted. A tied quilt is not a Quilt of Valor
- Batting should be low-loft quality batting. Quilting should be appropriate for the quilt and not overly dense, which can reduce the loft of the quilt.
- Bindings should be double-fold (don't fold the backing over to the top of the quilt for binding)
- Add a label. It must say "Quilt of Valor". If possible, add the recipient's name. Include quilters name, date, and other standard label information
- A presentation case (matching pillowcase) is a nice touch, if possible.
- Before awarding, machine launder (they give instructions, but we all know how to do this)
- A note, card, letter, or journal documenting the creation of a Quilt of Valor may be presented to the recipient along with the quilt.

Paraphrased and reprinted from the Quilts of Valor website by Audrey Bee.