



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY

406 West 34th Street ★ Kansas City, MO 64111 ★ [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org)

*Please return your VFW "Buddy"® Poppy  
so it can be added to a special wreath to be  
displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters'  
Centennial Plaza in honor of Memorial Day.*

April, 2020

Dear Sample,

I know you care deeply about our veterans ... and you believe in honoring the sacrifice of our nation's fallen sons and daughters. That's why I've enclosed a VFW "Buddy"® Poppy just for you, Sample.

As you know, the red poppies of Flanders Fields are a well-known symbol of remembrance – and reverence – for those who gave all in service to their country. For nearly a century, the VFW Auxiliary has distributed the "Buddy"® Poppy on patriotic holidays to solemnly honor our nation's fallen heroes.



**Today, I'm asking you to return your "Buddy"® Poppy to the VFW Auxiliary.** They'll be used to create a special wreath to be displayed at Centennial Plaza at the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters in honor of Memorial Day.

**We must receive your "Buddy"® Poppy by May 25, 2020, to include it in this very special tribute.**

As we honor America's fallen heroes, we must never forget the countless veterans, service members and military families who still need our help today ...

That's why I've also enclosed a card for you to sign and thank a current service member or veteran for their service. **Please sign and return it to me as soon as you can, Sample. I'll see to it that your message of thanks is rushed immediately to a service member or veteran who could use a kind word.**

Along with your signed Thank You card, I hope I can also count on you to return the most generous gift you can manage in honor of Memorial Day. I affixed a nickel as a simple reminder of how much your generosity means to our wounded veterans and heroes – especially when added together with that of other proud members.

*Especially as Memorial Day nears, it's more important than ever for us to remember our country's struggling heroes ... veterans who are sick, unemployed and suffering from Traumatic Brain Injury, Post-Traumatic Stress and other war injuries.*

*(over, please)*

UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

With your support, we can help our veterans and their families when they need it most. Your Memorial Day gift for the VFW Auxiliary will help our nation's defenders:

- **Transition to Civilian Life.** The VFW Auxiliary provides financial support and other acts of kindness to veterans and military families readjusting to life after deployment.
- **Receive the Respect and Justice They Deserve.** Our advocacy work on Capitol Hill holds our leaders accountable for the promises they made to America's veterans.
- **Heal and Return to Their Families.** Members across the country volunteer in VA Medical Centers and other hospitals to bring cheer and hope to wounded veterans and aging warriors.

More than 5.1 million veterans have a service-connected disability. Many have been wounded by gunshots and others are haunted day and night by their experiences. Thousands of them will require a lifetime of expensive medical care.

#### **Who cares for our veterans in their time of need?**

For over 100 years, the VFW Auxiliary has made it our commitment to care for America's veterans and their families. With your help today, we can continue this noble work.

You might be surprised to learn the fate of so many of our nation's veterans. Countless are sick, unemployed, homeless or suffering from the combat wounds they endured years ago. Many feel forgotten by their fellow Americans ... overlooked by their government ... and abandoned by the nation.

They rely on our kindness and work within the community to help them. I can't stress how important your dedication is, especially now with so many new veterans home.

So please, **take a moment now, while my letter is still in your hands, to sign the enclosed card thanking an American hero for their service to our country.** I've been there when these cards are put in the hands of a veteran and I can tell you, it really makes them feel good to know someone is thinking about them.

And please return your Memorial Day donation and VFW "Buddy"® Poppy along with your card. Your generosity will show the men and women who defend our freedom that we appreciate their sacrifice ... and that we'll never turn our backs on them when they need us.

Thank you for remembering America's veterans need us on Memorial Day - and every day of the year.

Sincerely,



Ann Panteleakos  
National Secretary-Treasurer

P.S. I'm counting on you to make a special Memorial Day gift in honor of the sacrifice made by our country's veterans. Thank you for remembering freedom isn't free.

P.P.S. I hope you'll return your VFW "Buddy"® Poppy by May 25, 2020 so we can use it as part of a wreath to be displayed at the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters' Centennial Plaza in honor of Memorial Day. **And please remember to sign and return your Thank You card so we can make sure it gets to a veteran as soon as possible.**