

Adopt a Family for Christmas



FAMILY SOLDIER BY ROGER W HANCOCK

A MAN LOVED HIS FAMILY BEST,
FOR THEM TO WAR HE LEFT.
DILIGENCE WITHIN EACH TASK,
PERFORMED HIS DUTY WELL.

"MATURE AND OPTIMISTIC,
SAID PLATOON COMMANDER.
SENSE OF HUMOR WITH NO NONSENSE,
PUSHED TO GET JOBS DONE.

FAMILY MAN LOVED TO BRAG,
OF AWESOME WIFE AND SON.
DILIGENCE STEPPED UP A NOTCH,
AFTER A FAMILY CYBER VISIT.

ONCE ASKED, "WHY A SOLDIER?"
"I DO IT FOR MY FAMILY."
WHEN WITHOUT FEAR YOU WALK A
MALL,



Accepting unwrapped gifts, toys, gift cards & clothing.
Gifts and Donations can be dropped off at the

Merrell Home;
14024 110th Ave. E.
Puyallup, WA 98374

December 8th, 2011 - December 19th, 2011
**Open House to Celebrate the holidays with
hors d'oeuvres and cocktails
December 18, 2011 4pm - 9pm**

@ the Merrell Home

Contact Staci Merrell with questions 253-732-8740

Please R.S.V.P.

I want to contribute to: Father Mother Boy Girl

- Baby
- Toddler
- Pre-teen
- Teenager
- Young Adult

I want to contribute by:

- Toys/Games Clothes Outdoor Clothing Food
- Personal Items Other _____
- \$ _____ For the Family
- Can not contribute at this time

I have included:

- Money Order in the amount of \$ _____
- Check in the amount of \$ _____
- Gas/Fuel Cards in the amount \$ _____
- Target Gift Card(s) in the amount of \$ _____
- Walmart Gift Cards in the amount of \$ _____
- Other (specify) _____

My husband has been in for 8.5 years and is a Combat Engineer. He spent his first year in Korea, has been to Iraq twice, and Afghanistan once. He has only been home for two Christmas's in our 5 years of marriage and this was his 2nd Thanksgiving home. Portlynn's birthday was November 1st (2007) and it was very special for her Daddy to be home for that. Maddalyn will celebrate her 3rd birthday on December 18th and Jarod will celebrate his 1st birthday Jan. 18th. He currently spends a lot of time in Yakima training for the next deployment. (Fingers crossed that it is far away or non-existent) He has missed so many birthdays, ect... But he truly enjoys his Military career. He plans on staying in until he hits at least 20 years.

My husband did make it home for Jarod's birth and was able to stay for 3 weeks before he returned to Afghanistan. He just returned from the deployment in July.

The kids and I moved here in April due to the needs of Jarod. He needed health care and Madigan on Fort Lewis, was the best place for us. When my husband came here in July we had not lived with each for 20 months because he was stationed in Germany prior to the deployment and I was living in the states during my pregnancy (I had Maddalyn in Germany but decided I would need family near for my son's birth). Although it was very hard living apart for so long, we are happy with our decision as Jarod's diagnosis of Down syndrome was at birth and very unexpected. He is doing fabulous though but has lots of doctor appointments!

Hi Staci and thank you for contacting us. We are open to any help we can get! Gas cards to Safeway, Fred Meyer, ect and grocery cards too would help us so much. We have three children.

**Portlynn who is 4 (size 6),
Maddalyn who is 3 (size 3t),
Jarod 11 months old(size 12 month)
who has Down syndrome is**

We have clothing for them but could use winter jackets, hats, gloves, ect.

I am a full-time student pursuing a degree in nursing at Pierce College and we are just trying to make it by until I can contribute to our income as well.

Thank you so much for considering us! We are grateful for any help we receive!