Gold Star Families Monument in Kingsport



The purpose of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument is to honor Gold Star Families*, preserve the memory of the fallen, and stand as a stark reminder that Freedom is not free.

A seed was planted. As a young boy on a dairy farm in West Virginia, Hershel "Woody" Williams could never have imagined that a passion and vision would begin to develop because of the experiences he had as a young man. As a cab driver, his duties were to deliver Western Union telegram death notices to families that had lost a loved one in battle. This experience weighed heavy on Woody's heart through the years, while his dreams began to take shape. Now, years later, Woody's vision of honoring and paying tribute to these Gold Star Families "for their sacrifice of one of their loved ones has become a reality".

The goals and objectives of the Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation are to continue to nurture the seed that Woody has planted and bring his full vision to fruition through this project. Hershel "Woody" Williams, (USMC, Ret.), is a recipient of The Medal of Honor due to his conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in World War II - The Battle of Iwo Jima

To date, the following sponsors have been obtained for the Kingsport monument, which will be located at the Veterans Park and Memorial, 1630 Fort Henry Drive. The total project cost is approximately \$75,000.

BAE Systems		\$10,000
City of Kingsport (in addition to the property)		\$10,000
Eastman		\$7,500
Hershel "Woody" Williams Medal of Honor Foundation		\$5,000
TC-MAC		\$5,000
Individual Contributions		\$2,050
Vietnam Veterans of America #979		\$1,000
	Total To Date	\$40,550

Please make your tax deductible payment to **Kingsport Chamber Foundation**, **Inc.** If you have any questions, contact Vanessa Bennett at 423-392-8813 or vbennett@kingsportchamber.org. For accounting purposes, please note that our Tax ID # is: 58-1453565 and we are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Your gift is a charitable donation. Names of donors will be appropriately displayed and recognized.

*What is a Gold Star Family Member?

A wife, husband, mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, parent through adoption, foster parents who stood in place of parents, children, stepchildren, children through adoption, brothers, sisters, half brothers, half sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, grandchildren and grandparents of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States that sacrificed their life for our way of life, while serving in the United States Military.