On Veterans Day, salute our American heroes!
Dear John,

As we prepare to mark the ELEVEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11 — the day when a group of cowards attacked unarmed ... innocent ... U.S. citizens on our own soil — we must never forget the tragic images we saw unfold on television as the world watched in horror. Nor can we forget the broadcast images that followed. Images of Iraqi insurgents setting off roadside bombs ... of Taliban members strapping bombs to themselves ... of children being forced to take up arms — all in the hopes of interrupting the spread of democracy and peace.

But, seldom do you hear what challenges ... new battles ... many of our heroes face when they come home, after the parades and news coverage have ended.

Our wounded veterans — HEROES who put their lives on the line to serve our country — are faced with long months, often years, of rehabilitation.

These soldiers, many of whom look like they are barely out of high school, have months of grueling physical therapy and rehabilitation ahead of them. Often, they face these long months without their families and are challenged with making decisions regarding their healthcare and careers that will affect the rest of their lives.

To help meet the growing needs of our wounded troops, The American Legion has offices at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis and Brooke Army Medical Center. Our staff helps wounded soldiers and their families navigate the often overwhelming and stressed medical care system and with many of their daily needs; like help coordinating visits from family and help obtaining personal items from home to make their long hospital stays more tolerable.

With YOUR HELP, our brave wounded soldiers at Walter Reed, Fort Lewis, Brooke and military hospitals around the country will receive the support and assistance they so desperately need.

THE AMERICAN LEGION is dedicated to serving those who have given so much ... our veterans. Through Legion programs like Operation Comfort Warriors and Heroes to Hometowns, we have helped

(over, please)
our wounded troops through their long stays in military hospitals and we have made sure they received a HEROES WELCOME when they returned home.

You have the opportunity to help our veterans receive the support and care they need … that they deserve.

But it’s not just our soldiers returning home from the Middle East that are at risk of falling through the cracks. Right now there are over 65,000 hospitalized veterans in our VA health care system.

These are the same men and women who fought … put it all on the line … for you and me. Many of them left homes and families to fight on foreign soil for the freedoms that you and I enjoy today.

These brave men and women have paid a huge price for our freedom and national security. I need you to help me salute them … as grateful Americans … by following THREE simple steps.

Many of our wounded soldiers and their families must spend countless hours, depleting their resources, trying to return to the lives they left. Doctors’ visits, rehabilitation, navigating the complexities of the VA health care system … they struggle to reshape their shattered lives.

Step #1  Help me build a giant American flag. Remove the piece of fabric attached on this letter and return it to me as quickly as you can get it in the mail. I want to build a giant mosaic American flag — made with your small piece of fabric and those pieces from thousands of other grateful Americans — to show our wounded warriors how much we appreciate their sacrifice to their country.

You can be part of building a giant mosaic flag. I want all veterans who see it to know how much their fellow Americans appreciate the price they paid to make America a better place to live. Now you can see why it is so important that I receive your piece of fabric as quickly as possible … I’m counting on you to make sure that our flag is complete when it goes on display.

STEP #2 To help me do that, I need for you to enclose a very special support gift when you return your piece of fabric to me. Your support TODAY will help continue to ensure that no veteran falls through the cracks of the system.

STEP #3 Send me your response BY October 1st. Please take the two minutes needed to complete the attached reply, and send it—along with your generous support gift as quickly as you can get it in the mail.

VERY IMPORTANT … A spot in our GIANT AMERICAN flag has been reserved for YOUR piece of fabric. For our flag to be complete, we MUST have your piece of fabric before midnight, October 1st — so don’t delay. Whether you send $1 or $100 is not the most important point right now. YES, we need every penny you can send — BUT RIGHT NOW please send what you can with your special piece of fabric. Your quick response will let me know you appreciate the sacrifices our veterans have made. It will also ensure that our giant FLAG will be complete when it goes on display at our National Headquarters.

I look forward to your response,

William A. Pease
National Development Director
The American Legion

P.S. Don’t forget to return the enclosed fabric with your best gift today. Our giant FLAG will be displayed at our National Headquarters — in honor of AMERICA’S HEROES — both past and present.
Salute our American Heroes
This Veterans Day

You have the opportunity to ensure that our veterans and wounded warriors feel remembered and celebrated this Veterans Day. Think of what it will mean to them when they see a GIANT AMERICAN FLAG unfurled for the first time, made of tiny pieces of fabric from THOUSANDS of grateful Americans across the country.

With your support, we can make this giant American flag – a Salute to our Heroes – a reality, simply by sending your piece of fabric back to me with your best gift.

**STEP #1**
Remove the piece of fabric attached to the letter and return it to me as quickly as you can get it in the mail.

**STEP #2**
Please enclose your gift to The American Legion to continue to ensure that no veteran falls through the cracks.

**STEP #3**
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**detach here and return your piece of cloth TODAY!**

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PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE?

☐ Please send me information on supporting our veterans with a bequest to The American Legion in my will.

☐ I have already included The American Legion in my will.

☐ I have included a check.
   Please make check payable to: The American Legion.

☐ Please charge my credit card.  

   Card Number: ___________________________  
   Amount: $____________________

   Signature: _______________________________  
   Expiration Date: ________________

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Your gift is very much appreciated and may be deductible as a charitable contribution. Please consult with your tax advisor for additional information. A copy of our latest financial report may be obtained by writing to The American Legion, PO Box 361656, Indianapolis, IN 46236, 317-630-1200. If you are a resident of one of these states, you may obtain financial information directly from the state agency:


**GEORGIA** - A full and fair description of the programs of The American Legion and our financial statement summary is available upon request at the office and phone number indicated above. MARYLAND – For the cost of copies and postage, Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401.

**MISSISSIPPI** – The organization’s official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State’s office by calling 1-888-236-6167. Registration by the Secretary of State does not imply endorsement.

**NEW JERSEY** – INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING (973) 504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ocp.htm#charity. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT.

**NEW YORK** – Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

**NORTH CAROLINA** – FINANCIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION AND A COPY OF ITS LICENSE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE SOLICITATION LICENSING BRANCH AT 1-888-830-4989. THE LICENSE IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT BY THE STATE.

**PENNSYLVANIA** – The official registration and financial information of The American Legion may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-332-4483. REGISTRATION WITH ANY OF THESE STATE AGENCIES DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY ANY STATE.