

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Christmas Spirit For Our Wounded Troops Rehabilitating at Walter Reed Medical Center

Columbia, Maryland – December 10, 2004 – The holidays are always a time to reflect on what we are thankful for and to seek ways to create a more joyful life. Hopefully, we are also reminded of the great privilege of calling ourselves an American. As the bloodshed in the Middle East continues to increase, so does the death toll of our young men and women who are fighting to keep the rest of us safe. To date, there are over 1200 soldiers, airmen and marines who have paid the ultimate price in defending our country. Just as tragic, there have been over 9,000 of our troops who have been severely wounded in battle. Many of these young men and women are now amputees learning to live with less of a body. They are learning to cope with the loss of their identity and their career while rehabilitating their brutally severed bodies.

Linda Furiate, author of *101 Simple Suggestions and Quotations to Express Compassion and Empathy* hopes to share a ray of light and extend her own compassion by donating autographed copies of her book to our wounded troops currently rehabilitating at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, DC. Her goal is present 50 copies of her book as holiday presents to the troops on or about December 21, 2004. She is asking area businesses to join in her quest to show their own compassion by purchasing a copy or multiple copies of *101 Simple Suggestions and Quotations to Express Compassion and Empathy* to be given as holiday gifts to the men and women at Walter Reed Medical Center. The book retails for \$12.95.

To learn how you can make a worthy donation toward purchasing one or more of the 50 books being presented to the troops contact Linda Furiate at (410) 964-1303 or email at Linda@portraitsindetermination.com The deadline for donations is December 20, 2004. When the books are presented to the troops a letter will accompany each book to inform them as to who contributed to the purchase of the books. A portion of sales proceeds will further support our wounded troops as funds will be donated to the Wounded Warrior Project, a non-profit organization which supports our wounded troops. To learn more about them log onto www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Please feel free to forward this email to all of your friends, family and the business owners you may know who would interested in making such a donation. Hurry, do not delay, the deadline is fast approaching.