



# Survivor Outreach Services ...keeping the promise

**30th Edition—October 2012**

## The National Military Family Bereavement Study

Welcome to the National Military Family Bereavement Study's website. This study, conducted by the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), is the first large scientific study of the impact of a U.S. service member death on surviving family members. For more information or to find out if you are eligible to participate in the study, please follow the link below.

<http://www.militarysurvivorstudy.org/>

## SURVIVOR OUTREACH SERVICES



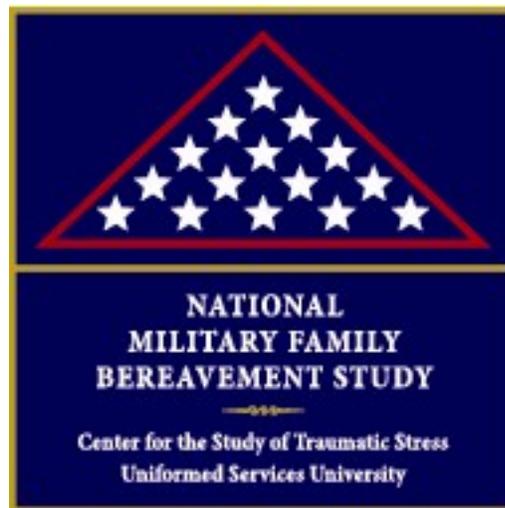
**Delivering the Army's  
Commitment to Survivors**

Survivor Outreach Services  
provides support services for  
Active, Reserve and  
Army National Guard Families.



**ARMY FAMILY COVENANT:  
Keeping the Promise**

**ARMYOneSource.com**



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# ILLINOIS CONNECTIONS FOR FAMILIES OF THE FALLEN (ICFF)

Invites you to join us for

## Connections at the Zoo: Bringing Families of the Fallen Together

**Sunday, October 28, 2012 • 10:00 am–4:00 pm**

Registration begins at 9:00 am • Brookfield Zoo

8400 31st Street (1st Ave. & 31st St.) South Entrance • Discovery Center  
Brookfield, IL 60513

*Complimentary for all attendees: Lunch, Zoo Admission, Dolphin Show,  
Child Care and Parking*

- **Designed for all ages and relationships –**  
*Children, Teens, Siblings, Spouses, Parents and others*
- **Share memories and make new friends**
- **Counselors and child care will be available**
- **Fun/Food/Prizes –**  
*Tablet Computers, Zoo Tickets and more!*



### AGENDA



Chicago Zoological Society  
*Inspiring Conservation Leadership*



#### Morning

- Registration
- The Elephant in the Room
- Financial Counseling/Tricare
- Dolphin Show!

#### Lunch

- Food/Fun/Prizes

*If you would like to wear a costume, prizes will be awarded for best adult costume and best child costume.*

*Other participation prizes will be awarded as well.*

#### Afternoon

- Reaffirming Relationships with Family & Community
- Talking to Children
- Talking to the Animals (Art)
- Relaxation
- Spirituality
- Animal Experience!

#### Closing

- Music

**Register online at: <http://tinyurl.com/ZooConnections> (Space is limited)**

**For questions contact: (312) 265-9109 or [ICFF@hdadvocates.org](mailto:ICFF@hdadvocates.org)**

**See reverse side for workshops & Zoo information.**



# UPCOMING EVENTS:

The below is for informational purposes only, and is not intended to imply endorsement by the Illinois National Guard or Survivor Outreach Services Program of any event, organization, corporation, or product.

## EMAIL UPDATES

If you received this Newsletter by regular mail, consider sending us your email address so that information can be sent out quickly and at no cost. Send an Email to: [bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil) and be added to our confidential distribution list for future newsletters and timely email updates about news, benefits, and events.

### Dine & Dial — TOPIC: “TRICARE for Survivors”

A special opportunity for Survivors to speak to some TRICARE Subject Matter Experts.  
6PM Central on Oct 3, 2012  
The dial in number is 1-800-201-2375.  
Password 386935

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## SUPPORT GROUPS



### ICFF Support Group NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

November 3, 2012 — 10 AM — 12 PM  
Springfield Vet Center, 1227 S. Ninth Street,  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(Pot Luck — Please bring a covered dish)  
RSVP to: [Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil)  
or (217) 761-3382

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### ICFF Support Group — NEW GROUP — FIRST MEETING

November 10, 2012 — 10 AM — 12 PM  
American Red Cross, 404 Ginger Bend Drive, Champaign, IL 61822  
(Pot Luck — Please Bring a covered Dish)  
(Free Onsite Licensed Childcare available)  
RSVP to: [bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil) or (217) 761-3382

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### ICFF Support Group — NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

November 17, 2012 — 10 AM — 12 PM  
One Counseling & Wellness, 1003 North Cummings Lane, Washington, IL 61571  
(Pot Luck — Please bring a covered dish)  
RSVP to: [Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil) or (217) 761-3382

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### ICFF Support Group — NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

December 1, 2012 — 10 AM — 12 PM  
Springfield Vet Center, 1227 S. Ninth Street, Springfield, IL 62703  
(Pot Luck — Please bring a covered dish)  
RSVP to: [Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:Bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil) or (217) 761-3382



## SOS Financial Counseling Services “Financial Corner”

**Jon Cook**  
**Rock Island, IL**  
**(309) 782-0815**

**Mark Dunlop**  
**Ft. Leonard Wood, MO**  
**(573) 596-0153**

### “MARK MY WORDS”



**POSTED AUG 9, 2012**

Back to school—an annual ritual that includes buying new notebooks, packing lunches, coordinating transportation and filling out forms: registration forms, health forms, permission slips and emergency contact forms, to name a few. Many school forms require personal and, sometimes, sensitive information. In the wrong hands, this information can be used to commit fraud in your child's name. For example, a child's Social Security

number can be used by identity thieves and other criminals to apply for government benefits, open bank and credit card accounts, apply for a loan or utility service, or rent a place to live. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) cautions that when children are victims of identity theft, the crime may go undetected for years—or at least until they apply for a job, a student loan or a car loan, or want to rent an apartment.

#### **Limiting the risks of identity theft**

There are laws that help safeguard your child's and your family's personal information. For example, the federal Family Educational Rights Privacy Act, enforced by the U.S. Department of Education, protects the privacy of student records. It also gives parents of school-age kids the right to opt-out of sharing contact information with third parties, including other families. If you're a parent with a child who's enrolled in school, the FTC suggests that you do the following:

- **Find out who has access to your child's personal information**, and verify that the records are kept in a secure location.
- **Pay attention to materials sent home with your child**, through the mail or by email, that ask for personal information. Look for terms like "personally identifiable information," "directory information" and "opt-out." Before you reveal any personal information about your child, find out how it will be used, whether it will be shared and with whom it will be shared.
- **Read the notice schools must distribute that explains your rights under the federal Family Educational Rights Privacy Act.** FERPA protects the privacy of student education records, and gives you the right to:
  - inspect and review your child's education records;
  - consent to the disclosure of information in the records; and
  - correct errors in the records.

# Protecting Your Child's Personal Information

- **Ask your child's school about its directory information policy.** Student directory information can include your child's name, address, date of birth, telephone number, email address and photo. FERPA requires schools to notify parents and guardians about their school directory policy, and give you the right to opt-out of the release of directory information to third parties. It's best to put your request in writing and keep a copy for your files. If you don't opt-out, directory information may be available not only to the people in your child's class and school, but also to the general public.
- **Ask for a copy of your school's policy on surveys.** The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) gives you the right to see surveys and instructional materials before they are distributed to students.
- **Consider programs that take place at the school but aren't sponsored by the school.** Your child may participate in programs, like sports and music activities, that aren't formally sponsored by the school. These programs may have websites where children are named and pictured. Read the privacy policies of these organizations, and make sure you understand how your child's information will be used and shared.
- **Take action if your child's school experiences a data breach.** If you believe there's been a data breach and your child's information has been compromised, contact the school to learn more. Talk with teachers, staff or administrators about the incident and their practices. Keep a written record of your conversations. Write a letter to the appropriate administrator, and to the school board, if necessary. The U.S. Department of Education takes complaints about these incidents. Contact the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20202-5920, and keep a copy for your records.

## For more information

To learn more about identity theft and how to deal with its consequences, visit [ftc.gov/idtheft](http://ftc.gov/idtheft). You may have additional rights under state law: Contact your local consumer protection agency or your state attorney general for details.

**Contact a Consultant Now:** 1-800-342-9647

**TTY/TDD:** 1-866-607-6794

**En español llame al:** 1-877-888-0727

<https://www.militaryonesourceeap.org/achievesolutions/en/militaryonesource/>



## Potential Educational Resources



Since it's the report cards and parent teacher conference season, we thought it might be helpful to share some online and other educational resources that are available to military Families:

[www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military) -- Get homework and studying help from a professional tutor any time you need it. FREE for students in Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, National Guard and Reserve Families. Expert tutors are online 24/7 and available to help in more than 16 subjects, including test prep, proof-reading, Math, Science, English and Social Studies.

[www.soarathome.org](http://www.soarathome.org) -- SOAR is an innovative program that makes it easy for parents to play an active role in their children's education. SOAR is designed for military Families and is easily accessible worldwide. Students take an assessment aligned to state standards and SOAR directs them to individualized tutorials to improve skills where needed. Parents can monitor their children's progress from anywhere and are provided with resource materials.

[www.mathforum.or/dr.math](http://www.mathforum.or/dr.math) -- Ask Dr. Math is a question and answer service for math students and their teachers. A searchable archive is available by level and topic.

[www.mathmovesu.com](http://www.mathmovesu.com) -- Raytheon's MathMovesU program is an innovative initiative designed to engage middle school students in math by illustrating the connection between math and science for middle school students.

[www.mathplayground.com](http://www.mathplayground.com) -- Play with numbers and give your brain a workout.

[www.purplemath.com](http://www.purplemath.com) -- Helping students gain understanding and self-confidence in algebra.

[www.coolmath.com](http://www.coolmath.com) -- An amusement park of math and more...Lessons and games designed for fun.

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com) --Where children have fun learning to read.

[www.abcya.com](http://www.abcya.com) --The leader in free educational kids computer games and activities for elementary students to learn on the web

[www.professionaltutors.com](http://www.professionaltutors.com)

Professional Tutors of America have been providing personalized tutoring services to the children of service members who have lost their lives serving in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Their tutors have been very effective in mentoring these children and keeping them focused on their education and future goals. Their services are offered at no cost to the families nationwide, and the free tutoring is offered to the surviving spouses as well. If you or a family you know would like more information visit or call 800-832-2487

# Winfield Boy Scouts Honor Fallen Soldier

News from Illinois National Guard

For more information contact: National Guard PAO Illinois , (217) 761-3569, [ngilstaffpao@ng.army.mil](mailto:ngilstaffpao@ng.army.mil)  
Winfield Boy Scouts Honor Fallen Illinois Guardsman from Bartlett

Flag Pole Near Elgin Leaves Lasting Memory of Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco, Killed in Afghanistan in 2008;  
Story by 1st Sgt. Mike Chrisman, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

ELGIN, IL (09/23/2012)(readMedia)-- As the sun glared off a series of flag poles on Sept. 22, a sense of pride and patriotism emerged as Boy Scouts from **Winfield, Ill.** Troop 575 honored a former scout leader, Illinois Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco of **Bartlett, Ill.** A memorial, that includes three flag poles and a plaque on a concrete slab, were unveiled at Camp Big Timber west of **Elgin, Ill.** to honor and recognize the service and sacrifice of a Soldier who was killed in Afghanistan on Oct. 27, 2008.

It's hard to express the outpouring of support for Kevin. It's amazing," said Ralph Grieco of **Winfield**, Kevin's father and a retired U.S. Army colonel.

A 20-man platoon from Kevin's former Illinois Army National Guard unit, Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 122nd Field Artillery in **Sycamore, Ill.**, attended the ceremony to pay homage to a fallen hero.

"Kevin was always willing and able to do anything you asked. He was always there for you and these guys are here for him today," said 1st Sgt. Ed Panosh of **Chicago** who deployed with Kevin.

Eight-year old Joshua Grieco, Kevin's son and a Tiger Cub Scout, joined Ralph in raising the American flag in Kevin's honor.

"I was starting to cry," Joshua said. "It reminded me of my dad. He was a great guy. I miss him."

Lt. Col. Dudley Nosworthy with the Texas Army National Guard, Kevin's team leader in Afghanistan, spearheaded the memorial to honor the fallen Soldier.

"I only knew him for 45 days, but I know Kevin's spirit is alive and well today," Nosworthy said. "We will always remember Kevin for his leadership. It's nice to do something to honor someone who gave so much to his community and his country."

The values and traits of a Soldier can many times be found in that of a Boy Scout. Many of the qualities of the Scout Law and Scout Oath are reflected in the seven Army Values, so it's no secret that underneath many military uniforms is a former Boy Scout.

"The values of leadership are something you learn in scouting and the Army," Nosworthy said. "The Boy Scout Oath and Law are intertwined with the seven Army Values. It's a commitment to service. That's particularly important in the National Guard because it's a community-based organization."

Kevin was born and raised in Frankfurt, Germany while his father was stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army. He attained the rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 14. Reaching the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout is something only two percent of Boy Scouts are able to accomplish.

Stan Smolucha of **Winfield, Ill.**, founder of Boy Scout Troop 575, recruited Kevin to be Assistant Scout Master of the **Winfield** Boy Scouts in 1999. Kevin spent much of his free time mentoring young boys on camping trips and assisting the scouts of Three Fires Council at the **Elgin** camp.

"Kids instantly fell in love with him," said Smolucha. "Everyone loved Kevin and Kevin loved the outdoors. Kevin was the perfect guy."

# Winfield Boy Scouts Honor Fallen Soldier

Kevin enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard in 2006 after 13 years of prior service in the U.S. Navy. He was a son, brother, husband and father of two children. Kevin dedicated his life to serving his community and country and local Boy Scouts wanted to ensure his dedication is not forgotten.

"This is not a sad memorial. It's a happy memorial. It's something Kevin would've loved," Smolucha said.



**Photo 1: Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Chrisman, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment/ Ralph Grieco of Winfield (left) gets assistance from Lt. Col. Dudley Nosworthy of the Texas Army National Guard (right) and Joshua Grieco (front), in raising an American flag at Camp Big Timber west of Elgin, Ill. on Sept. 22. The American Flag soared on a 35-foot pole that is part of a memorial to honor Illinois Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco of Bartlett who was killed in Afghanistan in 2008.**

**Photo 2: Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Chrisman, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment/ Ralph Grieco of Winfield (left) gives Joshua Grieco (right) a kiss on the head after raising the American Flag during a ceremony to honor Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco. Kevin was killed by a roadside bomb in Afghanistan Oct. 27, 2008. A series of three flag poles and a plaque at Camp Big Timber near Elgin, Ill. will serve as a permanent reminder of Kevin's service to his community as an Eagle Scout and servicemember.**



**Photo 3: Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Chrisman, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment/ Rashmi Grieco (center) expressed her gratitude to those that contributed to the memorial for her husband, Illinois Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco of Bartlett. A ceremony on Sept. 22 at Camp Big Timber west of Elgin, Ill. unveiled a memorial that will serve as a reminder of Kevin's service to the Boy Scouts and his country. Kevin was killed by a roadside bomb while deployed to Afghanistan in 2008. He was survived by his wife and two children, Joshua (left) and Angeli (right).**

**Photo 4: Photo by 1st Sgt. Mike Chrisman, 139th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment/ More than \$15,000 was donated to erect a memorial for Illinois Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Kevin Grieco of Bartlett. The memorial consists of a plaque and three flag poles on a concrete slab at Camp Big Timber near Elgin, Ill. Grieco was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart after being killed in Afghanistan in 2008. "Since Kevin came out to Camp Big Timber so many times and it was close to his family's home, we thought this was the perfect spot," said Stan Smolucha of Winfield, founder of Boy Scout Troop 575.**





## Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)

SOS was created to embrace and reassure Survivors that they are continually linked to the Army Family through a unified support program that enables them to remain an important part of the Army for as long as they desire.

The SOS program continuously strives to provide the highest quality of services to surviving Family members of fallen Warriors. As such, we want to provide you with information on the SOS program in your area. We stand ready to serve you and answer your questions.

### **Services Available:**

- Provide Expertise on State & Federal Survivor benefits
- Arrange for estate and financial advice
- Connect Survivors with mental health support/counseling
- Provide assistance in obtaining military reports
- Provide Survivors with resource referrals for:
  - Peer Support
  - Bereavement Counseling
  - Emergency Financial Services
  - Military Legal Assistance
  - TRICARE
  - Educational Benefits
  - Benefits Assistance

Bobby Gillmore, SOS Support Coordinator  
Joint Forces Headquarters, 1301 N. MacArthur Blvd, Springfield, IL 62702-2399  
(217) 761-3382 office, (217) 316-1191 cell, email: [bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil](mailto:bobby.gillmore@us.army.mil)

Jim Frazier, SOS Support Coordinator  
Woodstock Armory, 1301 Sunset Ridge Road, Woodstock, IL 60098  
(708) 646-5933 cell, email: [james.l.frazier.ctr@us.army.mil](mailto:james.l.frazier.ctr@us.army.mil)

Robert Sheahan, SOS Support Coordinator  
East St. Louis Armory, 2931 State Street, East St. Louis, IL 62205-2233  
(618) 558-4196 cell, email: [robert.sheahan@us.army.mil](mailto:robert.sheahan@us.army.mil)

Jack Wilson, SOS Support Coordinator  
Building 110, East Avenue, Rock Island, IL  
(309) 782-8253 office, email: [jack.wilson2@us.army.mil](mailto:jack.wilson2@us.army.mil)

Latanya Yarbrough, SOS Support Coordinator  
10 S 100 South Frontage Road, Darien, IL  
(630) 910-3213 ext. 224 office, email [Latanya.r.yarbrough.ctr@us.army.mil](mailto:Latanya.r.yarbrough.ctr@us.army.mil)

Check us out online at:

<http://www.il.ngb.army.mil/family/survivoroutreach>

# Helpful Contacts and Resources:



Check out the Illinois Connections for Families of the Fallen (ICFF)  
“Community Connections” Resource Guide!

[http://www.nchsd.org/libraryfiles/HDAFiles/Veterans%20Project/11\\_11\\_Resourcesguide.pdf](http://www.nchsd.org/libraryfiles/HDAFiles/Veterans%20Project/11_11_Resourcesguide.pdf)

## **Military & Family Life Consultants**

Central/South (217) 720-0268

North: 708-638-2068

Providing free, confidential problem solving to all service members and their families. MFLC's travel to your home town. (12 free sessions)

## **Military OneSource**

12 free sessions per issue from a counselor in your area (no cost)

1-800-342-9647 or [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

Free counseling for all family members including spouses, children, parents and siblings (no cost) 1-800-827-1000 or <http://www.va.gov>

## **TRICARE**

Health and Dental Insurance

<http://www.tricare.osd.mil>

## **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)**

1-800-959-TAPS (8277) or [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

## **Social Security Administration**

1-800-772-1213 or <http://www.ssa.gov>

## **Defense Finance & Accounting Office**

1-800-321-1080 or [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil)

## **National Military Families Association (NMFA)**

<http://www.militaryfamily.org>

## **Gold Star Wives of America**

1-888-751-6350 or <http://www.goldstarwives.org/>

## **American Gold Star Mothers**

202-265-0991 or <http://www.goldstarmoms.com/>

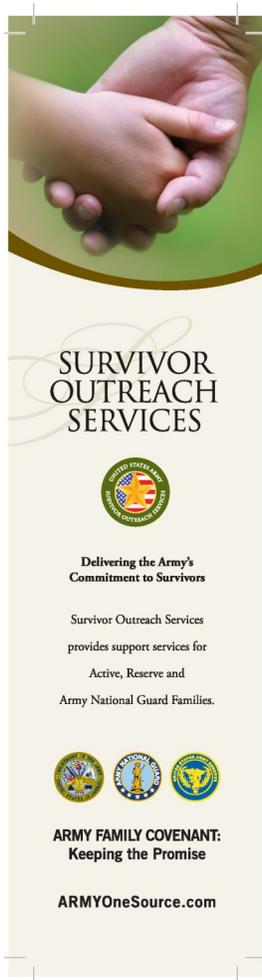
## **Gold Star Dads**

951-833-2935 or <http://goldstardads.org/>





Army Survivor Outreach Services  
1301 N. MacArthur Blvd.  
Springfield, IL 62702-2399

A vertical banner for Survivor Outreach Services. At the top, there is a photograph of two hands clasped together, one larger and one smaller, set against a green background. Below the photo, the text "SURVIVOR OUTREACH SERVICES" is written in a serif font. Underneath is the Army Survivor Outreach Services logo. The text "Delivering the Army's Commitment to Survivors" is centered. Below that, it says "Survivor Outreach Services provides support services for Active, Reserve and Army National Guard Families." At the bottom, there are three small circular logos: the Army Family Covenant logo, the Army National Guard logo, and the Army Reserve logo. Below these logos, the text "ARMY FAMILY COVENANT: Keeping the Promise" is written, followed by "ARMYOneSource.com".

Check us out online at:

<http://www.il.ngb.army.mil/family/survivoroutreach>