



WEB OF SUPPORT FACT SHEET

Adopt A Soldier

Web of Support.Com is not a big, national organization, it's just me, PJ Degross, and my Dell computer. I run the program, we are not a 501(c)3 as I choose to keep it very "grass roots" — that way I can keep it



simple.

There are approximately 375 volunteers who have adopted soldiers and will continue until the end of their deployment. There are many ways to support our troops... I'm not sure if you have checked out my blog, just click the link — <http://webofsupport.com> — you can go to PJ's soldier adoption corner and read the story of how it all started and then read my blogs.

I do many events to promote adoptions and speak before groups. If you can, please share connections with me that you think might benefit from hearing a presentation about supporting our troops. AirTran Airways has written about our program in their newsletter and we have many employees as part of our program. Many local business offices have taken on the adoption as a group project — they place a few flat rate boxes in their employee areas and people bring in things to ship (they chip in for the shipping).



So far, it has worked really well. We also have schools and Girl Scout troops, I never turn away a volunteer — if I can help it. There are a lot of ways to support our troops, I am always open to any and all suggestions to get stuff to "my kids."

Once you join, you will receive newsletters with updated information, interesting things and special projects you can participate in, such as Valentine Cards, Book Brigade for Soldiers and other things we do in addition to adoptions.

I am providing some useful information... don't be overwhelmed, it is really simple: Write a letter to your soldier, send him a goody box at least once a month or more if you like... I send every two weeks, I am addicted! I buy a lot of items at Walmart and the Dollar stores — anyplace I can find interesting stuff — and I fill up a flat rate box (boxes, labels and customs forms are free from post office).

The customs forms are easy... if you have any trouble, the Post office will help you. Always write **Web of Support.Com** above your name on return address — remember it can take 10-14 days for your mail to arrive in Iraq or Afghanistan. Some soldiers are very communicative, some not so much. If you need acknowledgement, please do not join Web of Support. Remember, the purpose is to support them... so even if you don't hear from them, just keep writing and shipping... they are receiving their mail.

If you have any questions, please email me or call me, 775-887-1767. I am always available for you. I know you will find this to be a very rewarding and heartfelt

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experience. Some of our soldiers use a military assigned email address... if yours does, you might be able to email your soldier as well.

SEND A GIFT BOX:



A greeting card or a short letter — In your first package you should always include a letter to let your soldier know a little about yourself.

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Customs Declaration and Dispatch note — PS Form 2976-A must be used for all international boxes.

This is easier than it seems, but is required for your shipments. If you use the following directions all will be well. This form is available FREE at the post office and other mail depots, such as Mailboxes, Etc. Forms can be found at the mail preparation tables or ask a clerk.

FILLING OUT THE FORM:

Fill out both the **FROM** and **TO** areas.

Check mark the 'Gift' block, 'Priority' block and the 'Return to Sender' block since there are no return charges on Priority Mail.

There is a large description area for items being shipped with a column for quantity. You need to list all of the items. However, you can list all same items together, ie: if you have three different types of cookies just write: 'Cookies' and '3' in the appropriate columns. Try to keep it simple... toiletries are just 'Toiletries'... you don't have to list each item. You will be asked if you want to insure the package, but if it is less than \$100, don't bother about it.

Do not ship flammable items or alcohol products. Glass bottles may be shipped, however, they should be sealed in zip top bags and packed in bubble wrap to avoid leakage to other mail. Liquid items should also be packed in zip top bags, just in case...

Don't forget to pick up a few boxes and extra **Customs Declaration Forms** while you are at the post office. Ask for the **FREE FLAT RATE** boxes — they only cost \$11.95 to ship to APO/FPO.

Pack 'em tight for the most bang for your buck — LOL!!



Extra zip top baggies are a treat for the troops — they can put their stuff in them to keep out the sand... send a few extra tucked in along with the goodies you packed.