A Foundation For The Children

(NAPSA)—Today's career-oriented military means more fallen service members will leave behind a spouse and children—like Gunnery Sergeant Joseph Menusa who served in the Marine Corps for 14 years, saw action in the Gulf War and left behind a wife and three-year-old son.



The Fallen Heroes Last Wish Foundation is leading the way in providing additional money to families of fallen service members to supplement military death benefits. It was founded by Dan O'Dowd, the father of two sons and CEO of Green Hills Software, because he believes that "the last wish of any parent who falls on the battlefield is not for a medal or a parade, it is: please take care of my children."

"The U.S. government provides a one-time \$6,000 payment, \$948 per month stipend and optional \$250,000 life insurance policy paid over three years, but this is not enough," said O'Dowd, who started the Foundation with a personal contribution of \$100,000, and he's paying all overhead costs. The Foundation is giving 100 percent of the donated funds to the children of service members who died in Operation Iraqi Freedom, with a minimum goal of \$5,000 per child. Donations in any amount are appreciated and O'Dowd will match all contributions until the first \$500,000 is raised.

For more information on the Fallen Heroes Last Wish Foundation, visit www.lastwishfoundation.org.