

Fraser Valley Quilts of Valour

Carolyn Jennings

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It was a slow start to the year but a quilt was delivered to a young veteran, AJ Lettelier and his wife in January. That turned out to be a good thing for both of them as well as myself.

In the meantime, I did do a few presentation in Chilliwack and Abbotsford in August and September. In September AJ contacted me as he was a member of a motorcycle group "Veterans helping Veterans" and he had just returned from a PTSD clinic where he met a fellow veteran who he wanted to present a quilt to in person in a neighbouring city. He called me to see what could be done and our chat turned into him taking a stack of twenty quilts to cover his fellow veterans in Agassiz, Chilliwack and Hope. We discussed the terms of who gets quilts and he assured me that the majority of quilts presented were to those suffering badly from PTSD and most had served in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Yugoslavia and saw a lot of terrible action there.

So, my new friend and presenter, AJ Letellier has covered 20 veterans at this time with the intention of covering more when he finishes his next PTSD program and hunting season is finished. He is a wonderful young man and is very enthusiastic. He loves his quilt so much that he was given that he made sure he took it with him for his latest surgery and sent me a picture from the hospital, smiling with his treasure.

So, I will no longer have quilts to send off across the country to transition centers in need because I am going to be busy motivating my local quilters to continue to make quilts for our cause and hope I have enough for all the veterans that have served in or retired to the Fraser Valley.

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