Department of Connecticut

VFW Auxiliary

Soaring for our Veterans

Serving America's Heroes

Americanism

Bulletin #3

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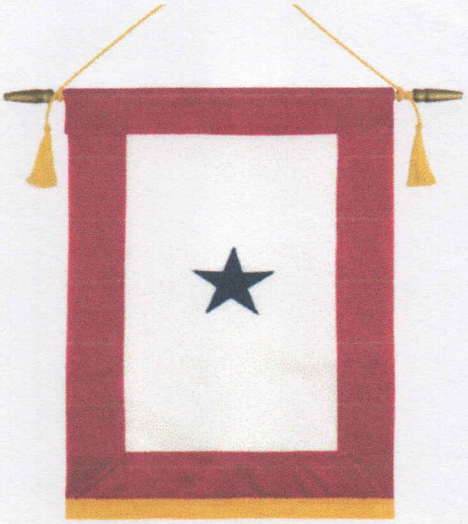

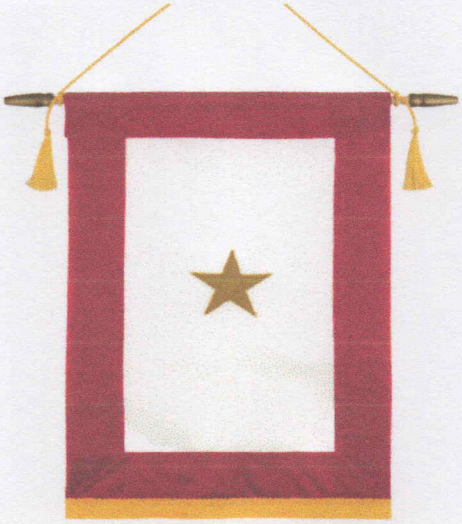

Blue Star: family of a currently serving military member

Gold Star: one that has lost an immediate family member in the line of duty of military service

The term **Gold Star Family** dates back to World War I, when military families displayed service flags in a window or on their door featuring a blue star for every immediate family member serving in the Armed Forces. The star's color would be changed to gold if the family lost a loved one in the war, designating them a Gold Star Family.

The Gold Star represents unimaginable loss and serves as a visible reminder of the cost of freedom. It ensures that the service member's legacy is remembered and the family's grief is recognized by a grateful nation.

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established **National Gold Star Mother's Day,** observed on the last Sunday in September which was later expanded to **Gold Star Mothers and Families Day** to honor all grieving family members.

Do you have a Gold Star Mother/Family in your town that you should be reaching out to in order to recognize them on Sunday September 27th ? Remember to include them in any program you may hold to recognize and honor their loved one.