

THE BEANIE NEWSFLASH

June, July, 2008

By Irma Proulx

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June, 2008

984 Beanies Received
5 New Beanie Angels
1250 Beanies shipped to Iraq

July, 2008

819 Beanies Received
4 New Beanie Angels
500 Beanies shipped to Iraq



There is something special about this beanie, it may not look like it, but it is: it is **Beanie #1001** crocheted by “Grandma Kate” - Kathleen Gibbs - of Somers, CT. She is the first Beanie Angel to reach this goal and certainly deserves a very heartfelt THANK YOU and recognition for this accomplishment.

Grandma Kate started crocheting beanies in 2005 after her sister-in-law sent her a newspaper article about *Operation Beanies for Our Service Members*. She called Miki and decided to help – helping others is just something she likes to do. But she also has a soft spot in her heart for our military: her husband was in the Navy and her son was in the Marines and played in the President’s Band under President Reagan.

Grandma Kate isn’t just crocheting beanies for soldiers. She also crochets hats for the elementary school in her neighborhood for their “Hat and Mitten Tree” in December. These hats and mittens are then given to the needy at Christmas. And there is one more group of people Grandma Kate is helping; starting now she is crocheting prayer shawls for her church which distributes them to the sick.

As you see, Grandma Kate has always one project or another going. While she was raising her 5 children and help raise 2 grandchildren she was also involved in the PTA and the brownies.

Now her 8 grandchildren, ages 2 to 21, keep her busy sewing and crocheting. She truly exemplifies the saying: “busy hands are happy hands”!

Grandma Kate is a native of Connecticut, born there, grew up there, got married there 51 years ago, and raised her family there.

But now it may be time to move on because the 12- room house and 1- $\frac{3}{4}$ acres of land is just becoming a little too much work for her and her husband - especially in winter. She may finally leave Connecticut to be near one of her children and help with the grandchildren. Maybe one of them will become a new beanie angel???

