



## **OPERATION PASS THE TORCH**

Operation Bear Drop was an amazing experience for us last May. We knew from personal experience what a difference it can make when there is a way to keep that connection going with someone you love, when they are so far away. Having a parent gone and unavailable when you need them so much of the time is very hard.

I don't think we realized it was just as important for them to know that their sacrifice was noticed and appreciated. That others care. Barbara Critchfield, their counselor, now tells us that after that day not only did the kids carry their bears to school every day; they as a group worked hard improving their grades and attitudes. Her stories are inspiring as she was telling us all the good things that kept on happening, for the kids, the town, and the school it self.

Now these kids want to "Pass the Torch", and organize a bear drop for another school with 70% of kids with deployed parents. We donated all the bears to Shoemaker; they are fundraising to be able to give back what they received. MyHuggy wants to partner with them to make this happen.

We have set up a separate fund for just this purpose. Will you put out some "Operation Pass the Torch" donation cans in your local businesses and lets see if we can show these kids that we all are supportive of them and the sacrifice they are making. The young people of today are our future.

These are amazing kids. This is an important project coming from their heart and their own personal need.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Barbara Critchfield, 254 501 2490

Dianna Lavoie, 434 432 2481

Steve Cotcher, 262 242 0492