



Thank You - Thank You - Thank You!

Well the fifth annual Gold Star 500 is in the books. This endurance bicycling event covered over 540 miles in just five days! Along the way the team, we met many Gold Star Families and were honored to be introduced to their Fallen Heroes! That is what makes this event so special.....the interaction with our Gold Star Families!

The Gold Star 500 could not be possible without the tremendous support, hospitality and generosity of our great Veteran Service Organizations, like the American Legion! Without hesitation, many of Illinois great American Legion Posts stepped up again to support this event and welcome Gold Star Families into their Post families!

Five years ago when we started this mission and the Gold Star 500, we found many in our communities didn't understand the significance of the phrase Gold Star Family. Thanks primarily to our Veteran Service Organizations, there is a much better understanding and appreciation for the service and sacrifices of our Gold Star Families!

Again, thank you all for your support, hospitality, generosity and most importantly the camaraderie! Our Veteran Service Organizations have been and will continue to be our "safe havens" for future events!

Many of you, along the 2021 route asked about the 2022 Gold Star 500, so we'll share you a little sneak peek!

Mark your calendars for September 20-24, 2022.

Our five day, 500+ mile journey is up like this so far:

Day 1 (Tuesday): Starting in Springfield and riding thru Beardstown, Mount Sterling and into Quincy.

Day 2 (Wednesday): Quincy, thru Macomb, Monmouth, and into Galesburg.

Day 3 (Thursday): Galesburg, thru Rock Island, and into Rock Falls.

Day 4 (Friday): Rock Falls, thru Freeport, Rockford, and into Woodstock.

Day 5 (Saturday): Woodstock, thru West Dundee, Arlington Heights, Fort Sheridan, and finally finishing at Great Lakes Naval Station.

We will start the detailed route coordination in a couple months, after we've gotten a little rest and bodies healed! However, don't wait for our coordination team to engage you, if you are along the route and would like to be a part of this journey, contact the undersigned! Until then check out our website www.goldstarmission.org or follow our Facebook (Gold Star Mission) for updates on our programs!

Thank you all again for your continued support of our Military Men and Women, Veterans and Military Families!

"Always Remember ~ Never Forget"

