# A Comprehensive Survival Guide for Gold Star Parents and Those Who Support Them



Grief is an incredibly powerful emotion that shatters one's world and leaves individuals searching for ways to rebuild their lives after suffering the devastating loss of a child who served in the military. For Gold Star Parents, who have lost a

son or daughter during military service, coping with grief becomes an ongoing journey that can be incredibly challenging to navigate.

#### The Unique Challenges of Gold Star Parents

Gold Star Parents face a unique set of challenges that require specialized support and understanding from their communities. Not only are they grieving the loss of their child, but they also have to cope with a profound sense of pride and an unwavering desire to honor their child's sacrifice.



### We Regret to Inform You: A Survival Guide for Gold Star Parents and Those Who Support Them

by Jonathan Catherman(Kindle Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 875 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 231 pages



#### **Grief Counseling and Support Groups**

Grief counseling plays a crucial role in helping Gold Star Parents deal with their emotions, process their grief, and find healthy ways to cope with their loss. Support groups, specifically designed for Gold Star Parents, provide a valuable platform for connecting with others who have experienced similar losses.

#### Remembering and Honoring Your Child

One way Gold Star Parents can find solace is by finding meaningful and personal ways to remember and honor their fallen heroes. This could include creating a memorial, participating in memorial events, or actively advocating for veterans and military families.

#### **Self-Care and Emotional Well-being**

It is essential for Gold Star Parents to prioritize self-care and emotional well-being. This can involve seeking professional help when needed, engaging in activities that bring joy, and taking time for self-reflection and healing.

#### **Supporting Gold Star Parents as a Community**

Communities must rally around Gold Star Parents to provide the support and understanding they need to navigate their grief journey. Offering practical assistance, creating awareness campaigns, and advocating for policies that benefit Gold Star Families are just some of the ways that communities can stand beside these parents.

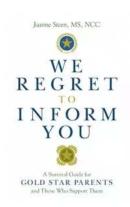
#### **Supporting Organizations**

There are numerous organizations dedicated to supporting Gold Star Parents on their difficult journey. These organizations offer a wide range of services, from financial assistance to counseling and emotional support.

The survival guide for Gold Star Parents and those who support them serves as a comprehensive resource to help families cope with the unimaginable loss they have experienced. By following the guidance and accessing the available support, Gold Star Parents can find solace, healing, and eventually, hope for the future.

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A compassionate guide to help Gold Star parents cope with the grief and loss of their military son or daughter.

Author Joanne Steen tackles the subject that terrifies parents of military personnel—the death of their son or daughter on active duty. In short, easy-to-read chapters Gold Star parents find thoughtful explanations and trustworthy advice for coping with military grief. Steen weaves together realistic examples with voices of other Gold Star parents, connecting the readers to the wisdom of those parents who have walked in their shoes.

Chapters for relatives, friends, and professional service providers of Gold Star parents are also included, supplying them with what they need to know about military loss; what to expect in the parents; and best practices on what to say and ways to help support them. Gold Star parents will find a path to survive their lifechanging loss and develop the resilience to move forward.

Joanne Steen has more than twenty years' experience in the grief and loss field, with a specialty in military loss. She is a board-certified counselor, instructor, Gold Star widow, and the founder of Grief Solutions, a training company on grief, loss and resilience. Steen is also the coauthor of Military Widow: A Survival Guide (Naval Institute Press, 2006)



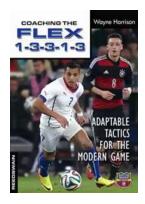
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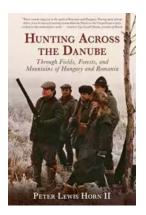
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