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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Send a Valentine to a Hero Overseas Through Operation Valentine

Reno, NV (January 7, 2013) - The message is a simple one, "Thank you so much for what you do." That is just one of many messages from a child to a soldier overseas, in a project called Operation Valentine.

Walton's Funerals & Cremations is one of nearly 1,000 Veterans & Family Memorial Care (VFMC) providers nationwide who sponsor the annual VFMC Operation Valentine initiative. The project is simple and meaningful, according to Tammy Dermody, the owner of Walton's. "Students and individuals throughout the community write messages to the troops on Valentine cards, cut-out hearts, or whatever they like and we make sure they're delivered to our brave men and women serving overseas," she said.

Cards cannot include glitter, food or candy, but there are still many ways to personalize a handmade card. "Write a message on them and say 'thank You,' tell them about yourself and wish them a Happy Valentine Day! Our troops are away from their loved ones and friends so they really want to know that people back home appreciate them," said Dermody. "Care packages are one thing, but this is a real morale boost."

Valentine cards may be dropped off now through January 25, at any Walton's location:

- **Walton's Sierra Chapel, 875 W. Second Street, Reno, NV 89503**
- **Walton's Sparks, 1745 Sullivan Lane, Sparks, NV 89431**
- **Walton's Gardnerville, 1521 Church St., Gardnerville, NV 89410**
- **Walton's Chapel of the Valley, 1281 North Roop St., Carson City, NV 89706**
- **Walton's Colonial Mortuary, 115 South Lassen Street, Susanville, CA 96103**
- **Ross, Burke & Knobel, 1538 C Street, Sparks, NV 89431**
- **Ross, Burke & Knobel, 2155 Kietzke Lane, Reno, NV 89502**
- **O'Brien-Rogers & Crosby, Reno 600 West Second Street, Reno, NV 89503**

In addition, Walton's is the Official Cell Phones for Soldiers drop off center. Individuals are invited to bring in their old cell phones to recycle and convert into One Hour of Free Talk time for our heroes overseas.

Walton's has been Nevada's trusted source for funeral services for more than 50 years. For more information, please visit www.waltonsfuneralhomes.com.