

A WISH FOR AN AIRMAN'S FAMILY AFTER HOME IS BURGLARIZED AND BURNED



WISH #19

February 17, 2010

Last December, while moving into a rental home, Tina Sprague, wife of TSgt Daniel M. Sprague Sr (188th Arkansas Air National Guard Unit in Fort Smith, AR), received news that their new rental had been broken into and set on fire. They lost all their recently purchased living room furniture, electronics, vacuum, and even some of their 3 children's clothing.

With no place to go, and the holidays around the corner, the couple used all of their savings to obtain another house before Daniel deployed to Afghanistan in January. Daniel has served his country for 23 years, with deployments to Iraq (3 times), Afghanistan, and Saudi Arabia with the Air Force and Air National Guard. For all of Daniel's service, we wanted to do something for he and his family. Therefore, prior to the holidays, we posted the Sprague's story on our website, and began accepting donations towards clothing, food and furniture. Donations reached \$715.00 dollars by the end of January, so we contacted the family to see what items were still needed.

THE WISH

Wish For Our Heroes used the money raised on our website and supplemented it to purchase a \$500 gift card to Lowes Home Improvement, and another \$500 gift card to Wal-Mart. The gift cards can be used to purchase food, clothing, and a small freezer still needed by the family. We were thankful to have the assistance of Tim Krakowiak of the Daily American Republic newspaper (Poplar Bluff, MO), who presented the wish to Tina Sprague and her children. As mentioned, Daniel is currently in Afghanistan, so was not able to attend, but the family who submitted their wish was present.

As we have seen with other wish recipients, Tina would like to "Pay It Forward" by volunteering with Wish For Our Heroes. She has already begun her first project, and will be a valued member of our team.

