



## WHEN GOD CREATED MILITARY WIVES



When the good Lord was creating Military Wives, He was into His sixth day of overtime. An Angel appeared and said, "You're having a lot of trouble with these. How are these different from the standard model for wives?"

The Lord replied: "Have you seen the specifications? Each of these wives has the qualities of both Mother and Father during deployment; be a perfect hostess for four to forty guests; handle emergencies without military orders; cope with them with transfers all over the earth; be able to convert 1400 hours to 2:00 P.M.; have a kiss that cures anything from a child's torn Valentine to a serviceman's arduous duty; have the patience of a Saint when waiting for a unit to return stateside, and have six pairs of hands.

The Angel said, "Six pairs of hands, no way."

The Lord answered: "Don't worry, each will have other Military Wives to help. Besides, it's not only the hands that must be so special, it's the heart. The heart of each Military Wife must swell with pride for the Armed Forces of the United States of America, sustain the ache of separations, bear on soundly when too tired to do so, and be able to say, 'I understand', when it doesn't, and say 'I love you' regardless."

"Lord", said the Angel, touching His sleeve gently, "go to bed, rest, you can finish these Military Wives tomorrow."

"I can't", said the Lord. "I'm so close to creating something unique. Already I have each Military Wife who can heal herself when sick, feed unexpected guests who are stuck in the area due to bad weather, and wave goodbye to her husband from a runway or a pier and understand it's important to the United States when a military husband must leave."

The Angel touched the Military Wives and sighed. "They are too soft."

"But tough," said the Lord. "You cannot imagine what these Wives can do endure."

The Angel ran a finger across the cheeks of all the Wives and said, "There are leaks. I told you that you were putting too much into this type of Wife."

"Those are not leaks", said the Lord, "Those are tears."

"What are the tears for?" asked the Angel.

"For joy, sadness, pain, loneliness, and pride. But" said the Lord somberly, "I did not put the tears there."

