



JOHN R. KASICH  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF OHIO

## **THE GOVERNOR'S COURAGE MEDAL**

### **The Awardees**

#### **Jo Anna Krohn**

In 2008, Jo Anna Krohn lost her son Wesley, a senior in high school, while he was under the influence of alcohol and opiates. In the midst of her grief, Jo Anna formed the support group SOLACE (Surviving Our Loss and Continuing Everyday), and has since united dozens of people to fight prescription drug abuse. The mission of SOLACE is to support people who have lost loved ones to drugs, to help the addicted make changes in their lives and help create a future free of prescription drug abuse. Now, in large part thanks to Jo Anna, southwest Ohio has turned a corner in the fight against prescription drug abuse, and lives are being saved.

#### **Theresa Flores**

As a victim of human trafficking, a teenage Theresa Flores was exploited, blackmailed, and abused. Today she is Director of Education & Training for Gracehaven House in Dublin, a faith-based care and rehabilitation home for girls who have been victimized by human trafficking. A licensed social worker, she is courageously using her experience to help make a positive difference in countless lives.

#### **U.S. Army Specialist Jesse Snow**

In November 2010, U.S. Army Specialist Jesse Snow served in Afghanistan as a radio telephone operator assigned to the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division. With his unit under attack, Specialist Snow crawled through enemy fire to help his fellow soldiers. After his weapon was destroyed, Snow secured ammunition, performed first aid, and even used his own body to shield a fellow soldier from machine gun fire. He later died from his wounds. In 2011, Gov. John Kasich joined in a ceremony where Spec. Snow was posthumously awarded the Silver Star for valor in combat. Spec. Snow is represented today by his father John and brother, U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Alex Snow.

### **The Medal**

The Governor's Courage Medal was designed by Columbus graphic artist David Browning, who also designed the Ohio Bicentennial logo. Each medal is three inches in diameter and made of 10 troy ounces of .999 silver, with selective 24k gold plate highlights and hangs on a red ribbon. Browning's design was converted into a three dimensional die by the manufacturer, Northwest Territorial Mint.

The front of the medal shows a flame representing the spirit of courage. Below, a shape of Ohio connects boughs of Ohio buckeye tree leaves and fruit. Above are the words “*For Courage*” and below is the word “*Ohio*.” This composition is surrounded by a 17-sided regular polygon corresponding to Ohio’s status as America’s seventeenth state. On the back is the recipient’s name engraved with the year of presentation. Below the word *Ohio* and sprigs of buckeye is a quote selected by the governor from the Roman philosopher Cicero: “A man of courage is also full of hope.”

### **The Box**

The box was handmade in the workshop of Millersburg resident Wes Schmucker. The top and bottom are made of curly Ohio cherry with the inner container formed from pale, native buckeye. On the lid is engraved Ohio’s Great Seal. On the inside of the lid the words *For Courage* and the Cicero quote are repeated.

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