



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on May 22, 2017

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## The Goodness of America

### Two Times the Kindness

Jimmy Ford, a repo man in O'Fallon, Illinois, helped an elderly couple not once but twice in the last six months.

Around Thanksgiving last year, Ford had to repossess Pat and Stanford Kipping's 1998 Buick because they had missed their last five payments. The Kippings explained that they could not afford the vehicle payments because they were spending a great deal of money on medications for Stanford's dementia, some of which they had had to forgo because the price of the medication had doubled. Ford decided to help the couple by creating a GoFundMe page, which raised approximately \$25,000 and allowed the Kippings to pay off the vehicle, Today.com reported.

Ford's family and friends were among the GoFundMe page donors, and even detailed the car and changed the oil for them. Another friend bought the couple a turkey for Thanksgiving.

But the story does not end there.

Starpulse.com reported that Ford remained in touch with the couple, chatting with them on the phone and even occasionally going out to dinner with them.

In March, Ford learned that Stanford had passed away from complications after a fall that required him to be airlifted to St. Louis by helicopter. After Stanford's passing, Pat was left with insurmountable medical bills.

Pat told Ford that she still had approximately \$8,000 left from Ford's GoFundMe campaign last year and that she would use that to pay some of the bills. Ford did not want that, however, as he knew that the money would be needed for funeral arrangements.

Instead, Ford reopened the GoFundMe page and asked for donations to help Pat pay off Stanford's medical expenses. He invited his own family and friends to donate as well, and collectively they've given \$1,000.

Ford set the GoFundMe page goal at \$30,000, but hopes to collect more than that because the helicopter ride alone that was used to take Stan to the hospital could cost over \$50,000.

"Stan was a great person and treated everyone he met like family!" Ford wrote on the GoFundMe page. "If everyone could please donate \$5, I think it would be a great help! That's the price of a Big Mac value meal! Summer is coming so if you're like me, you could skip a few lunches anyway!"

One donor named Linda Krueger told Ford that his relationship with the Kippings is "the meaning of fate." She noted, "You entered their lives in the most unlikely of ways. You were meant to."

### Nurse Mays

Thanks to the goodness of police officer Donald Carter of Kansas City, Missouri, Popeyes worker Shauna Mays can realize her dream of becoming a nurse, the *Kansas City Star* reported.

Carter stopped at Popeyes for lunch in March and chatted with Mays briefly. He asked her if she did anything else besides working at Popeyes. She explained that it was her dream to attend nursing school



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but that she was struggling to save the tuition money. Mays told Carter that she was so desperate to become a nurse that she did not even care which type of nurse she wished to be.

"I could see she was so done with the fast food thing. Even still, she was polite and respectful — far from the typical employee at this same location," said Carter.

Carter explained that he was touched by her story, and began to wonder what he could do to help. "The thought just dawned on me. I have 1,300 or so 'friends' on FB, I think. If I put the call out there, maybe people would want to do something kind for this random young woman," he said.

He decided to create a GoFundMe page with a goal of raising \$1,500, which it did in just 24 hours. The money is enough to help Mays get her CNA license.

Carter delivered the good news to Mays in person, and she was thrilled to be able to get her CNA license.

But the story doesn't end there. Before long, the campaign raised \$14,000, enough for her to advance to an LPN.

Carter wrote an update on the GoFundMe page in which he thanked all the donors for their generosity and explained how moved he was by the incredible acts of kindness for a woman who is a stranger to all of them. "The feelings that you generate when you give, the kindness you inspire when you share, and the hope you infuse when you look for ways to be kind to the people around you.... These are what have made these last few days incredible," he wrote.

## **A Small Boy's Big Sacrifice**

At just seven years old, Brady Duke of Wausau, Wisconsin, has proven himself to be an incredible little boy who already understands sacrifice and empathy.

When Duke heard that a local police officer, Detective Jason Weiland, had been killed in the line of duty, he wanted to comfort the other police officers. He knew that his most prized possession, his Nintendo Wii, was a source of comfort to him, and so he decided to send it to the Everest Metropolitan Police Department as a gift.

"I knew I had to do something because their police brother died," Brady told CNN affiliate WSAW. Brady's gift was accompanied by a letter in which he thanked the officers for all they do to protect his family.

Brady's parents also included a letter explaining what an awesome sacrifice it was for Brady to give up his Wii. "This is Brady's favorite thing.... After yesterday's events he decided that he wants to give it to a police officer to make them feel better," the letter explains.

According to Wausau Police Deputy Chief Ben Bliven, the Wii has really helped the officers to relax when they need it. "We're encouraging our officers to come in, take a break and de-stress," Bliven told WSAW.

The department was so touched by Brady's thoughtful gesture that they chipped in and bought him an Xbox 360. "Thank you Brady for your love and compassion," the department posted on its Facebook page.

— Raven Clabough



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