

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [TJ Pomian](#)

**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2009 11:37 AM

**Subject:** Thank you from TJ in Afghanistan

Hello Sue, Cheri and all our friends at Parkway,

The wonderful Christmas stockings have arrived!!

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone involved and who supported this tremendous effort. I understand and appreciate how much time was dedicated to planning, building ornaments, baking the cookies, stuffing the stockings, purchasing the lights and the expensive shipping costs. All I can say is thank you very much.

It was very fitting that the day the packages arrived, we received our first significant snow storm here in Afghanistan. I thought it would be a great moment to gather all my Soldiers who were not out on a mission and hand out the stockings. We set up a table of hot chocolate, played some Christmas music and lined up the boxes of stockings on our front porch to hand out. Go figure that when you gather a bunch of type A, Infantry soldiers and add in snow that a snow ball fight is sure to happen.

The stockings and ornaments are beautiful and clearly made with love by our wonderful children. The cookies were awesome and the lights were a big hit. It made our rooms a much more festive place to be for the holiday season. We live in an old Afghan Kalat (mud castle) that was the initial base of operations for the Special Forces right after 9/11. Now our Kalat looks like Christmas. Sometimes it truly is the little things that make all the difference. I know I will have many soldiers who will miss home and their families this holiday season, but these special items will help them get through it. Thank you.

I have attached a few pictures for you all. I look forward to returning home this Spring and thanking you all in person. Know that your United States Army is working hard to secure Afghanistan, so that hopefully our Parkway children will not have to return here someday.

God Bless you all & Merry Christmas!

TJ

TJ POMIAN  
CAPTAIN, INFANTRY  
HHC/TASK FORCE Dahlonga  
Commanding  
FOB Gardez, Afghanistan

[thomas.p.pomian@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:thomas.p.pomian@afghan.swa.army.mil)