Groups donate $15,000 for Gold Star Monument project

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HURRICANE, W.Va. (WSAZ) -- Two groups are donating funding in hopes of building a monument at the West Virginia State Capitol.

Tuesday, Farmers Bank and Marine Detachment 957 donated a total of $15,000 to the Woody Williams Gold Star Families Foundation at a ceremony in Hurricane.

Their goal is to honor our fallen heroes.

"It's very heartwarming to know that all your efforts are going to attempt to bring some kind of comfort to the families who've lost loved ones and to also honor an American hero who has a vision to reach out and help the families." Roy Hamilton with the Hershel Wood WIIlliams Medal of Honor Foundation said.

The monument is expected to cost about $85,000.

Williams is hoping monuments for the Gold Star families can go up in every state.

Williams, a West Virginia native, is the sole surviving Marine from WWII, to wear the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions at Iwo
Jima.

The purpose of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument according to its website is: "to honor Gold Star Families, preserve the memory of the fallen, and stand as a stark reminder that Freedom is not free."