Groundbreaking launches Gold Star Families memorial project at Washington Crossing National Cemetery

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Joan Hellyer | The Intelligencer

Dedication of the estimated $80,000 monument is expected in the spring.

For Julie Craven Haralambous, the thought of having a Gold Star Families memorial at the national cemetery in Upper Makefield hits very close to home.

It will be yet another reminder of the pain she and her family have lived with since her brother, Scott Craven, a U.S. Air Force captain, died in 2006. The 1997 Conwell-Egan Catholic High School graduate was killed in a car crash while stationed at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia.

“I miss my brother Scott,” the Bensalem native said Friday. “It is a loss that can not be replaced.”

Haralambous shared her family’s grief with an estimated 100 people who huddled in the cold late Friday afternoon to witness the ceremonial groundbreaking of a Gold Star Families memorial at Washington Crossing National Cemetery. The black granite
monument will pay tribute to families whose loved one died during military service. It will be the first Gold Star Families monument positioned in a national cemetery in the United States.