

## **Nancy Taylor**

By People Staff

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Out of the ashes of the Pentagon, where her husband, Kip, died on Sept. 11, Nancy Taylor vowed to create hope and renewal. Two months later the idea came to her. Fertility treatments at Walter Reed Army Medical Center had produced the Taylors' two sons, 2-year-old Dean and then Luke, who was born on Oct. 25. So she started the Kip Taylor Memorial Fund for infertile military couples, which has raised \$40,000 from family, friends and neighbors. "I'd like to either help renovate part of Walter Reed's fertility clinic or somehow help the couples directly," says Taylor, 37.

She still hasn't returned to her job as part-time editor of a health-care newsletter. The boys distract her, but their McLean, Va., home feels empty. "At first the mornings were hard, waking up and realizing Kip wasn't there," says Nancy. "Now the evenings are tough." She has found comfort in the kindness of strangers: The Minneapolis woman who made Luke a patriotic quilt. The Atlanta schoolchildren who made a blanket out of American flags. A military wife who sent a beaded purse necklace. "I wore it to Kip's funeral," Nancy says, "and put his wedding ring in it."

There will be another gift, originally intended for Dean, that both Taylor sons will relish. In January 2001 his parents assembled a time capsule to be opened on his 21st birthday. It includes a recorded message from Kip. "I can't tell you how thankful I am that we did that," Taylor says.