

University of Alabama students honor veterans with tribute wall

By Anna Bronson

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — University of Alabama students honored veterans on Veterans Day, and helped build campus awareness and showed support and recognition for those who have served in the military. Students wrote down names on star-shaped papers and placed them on a tribute wall.

Riley March, co-founder of Salute to Service, started this organization last year to honor veterans on campus. Salute to Service partnered with the Student Veterans Association for this event and raised money by selling T-shirts for people who were interested.

“The big thing we do for Salute to Service is the tribute wall where students can come and place a name of veterans they wish to honor on this. We will have letter writing later today which is going to veterans at the Tuscaloosa Veterans Affairs Medical Center,” March said. “I come from a family that has a lot of veterans and this was my personal motivation to get involved because I saw nothing was happening for them on campus.”



Students honored veterans by writing their names on a tribute wall.

Annalise Pusateri, a University of Alabama student, wanted to show support for veterans on Veterans Day. They said how amazing it was to see so many names written on the tribute wall.

“I think it is a great idea to keep this service mindset alive and support those who have served and risked their lives for our country,” Pusateri said. “I love seeing how many students wrote names and think it is so special to honor and remember those who have fought and are currently fighting.”

Catherine Heiner, a University of Alabama student, loved honoring the veterans and how much of an impact this was on them.

“I am a friend of the founder of the organization and wanted to support her and her initiative and the veterans,” Heiner said. “I love how many people this organization reaches and it means so much to contribute to people who have given so much for us.”

The Salute to Service event helped students recognize and honor veterans they know. Now in its second year, the organization plans to continue growing and engaging in the campus community.