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## GAIL BERGQUIST BIOGRAPHY

**Birthday:** June 27, 1956  
**Resides:** Norwell, Mass.  
**Hometown:** Weymouth, Mass.  
**Spouse:** Robert "Bob"  
**Children:** Courtney, Brittany and Robbie  
**Volunteer:** Director, Cell Phones For Soldiers  
**Occupation:** Retired Special Education Teacher



Gail Bergquist manages one of the country's growing military-based foundations as the clerk for Cell Phones For Soldiers®. Cell Phones For Soldiers is a nonprofit which provides cost-free communication services and emergency calling cards to active-duty military members and veterans. As the director for the charity, Bergquist handles communication and decision making needs.

In 2004, Bergquist helped her children, Robbie and Brittany, then 12 and 13, found Cell Phones For Soldiers. For more than a decade, Cell Phones For Soldiers has provided troops with more than 213 million minutes of talk time through its calling card program, Minutes That Matter and kept more than 11.6 million cell phones out of landfills. Bergquist attributes the success of the charity to her family's passion and dedication in helping military families.

In 2012, the family launched Helping Heroes Home, an initiative of Cell Phones For Soldiers that provides emergency funds for returning veterans to alleviate communication challenges as well as physical, emotional and assimilation hardships and has since served more than 2,700 veterans.

A life-long Massachusetts resident, Bergquist grew up in Weymouth, Mass., and attended Bridgewater State College where she earned her Bachelor of Science in special education. She went on to earn her master's degree in general education from Cambridge College and has raised her family in Norwell for the past 27 years. Bergquist retired from teaching in June 2013, after spending 35 years at Weymouth High School as a special education teacher.

In her free time, Bergquist enjoys traveling, reading, home decorating, cooking and spending time with family and friends. In her retirement, Bergquist looks forward to dedicating more time to the efforts of Cell Phones For Soldiers and hopes to volunteer in classrooms and tutor those in need.

For more information, please visit [www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com](http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Google+](#) and [Pinterest](#) pages.

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