

Wall Quilt – 38” x 38”

This hanging quilt tells a story of resistance, sacrifice, and hope. It honors the struggle our forefathers endured under the rule of King George III and celebrates the resilient, independent nation that was born from their courage. Every stitch reflects a moment of unrest, a choice to stand firm, and a belief that freedom was worth the cost.

Center Medallion

At the heart of the quilt lies a blue center medallion, a textile design common in the Colonial era. Outlined with a yellow star and bearing the dates 1776–2026, it marks the 250th anniversary of our nation’s birth. This central element reminds us that freedom began with a single, defiant declaration—and continues to be upheld by each generation.

Liberty Tree Leaves

In each corner rests an appliquéd tulip poplar leaf, also known as the “Liberty Tree.” These trees were sacred gathering places where colonists met in quiet defiance, sharing fears, plans, and resolve as they protested British rule and taxation without representation. Beneath their branches, rebellion took root. Each leaf in this quilt was created from paper etchings of a real tulip poplar leaf, grounding the piece in both history and nature. Tennessee, one of only three states to claim this tree as its state tree, is honored here. The gold thread edging each leaf symbolizes grief, sacrifice, and lives lost in the pursuit of freedom.

Blocks of Unity and Resolve

The four large squares of the quilt are built from three rows of meaningful block patterns. Two rows feature red and white spools, or bow tie blocks—symbols of unity and the interweaving of many lives into one shared cause. Several of these spools include the state of Tennessee, acknowledging its place in our nation’s journey. The third row in each square is made of blue and white half-square triangles, a beloved Colonial pattern, each marked with an outlined yellow star—small but powerful reminders of hope during uncertain times.

Stars and Numbers

Twelve half-square triangles and the center medallion bear yellow stars stitched with a running stitch. Together, these thirteen stars represent the original colonies—thirteen voices that dared to challenge an empire. When combined with the thirty-six surrounding blocks and the center medallion, the quilt holds fifty symbolic elements, honoring all fifty states that now stand together as one nation.

Seeds of Rebellion

Appliquéd tulip poplar seeds appear in the four corners and the center medallion. These nine seeds represent the “Loyal Nine,” respected merchants and tradesmen whose quiet courage helped spark organized resistance. Like seeds scattered on fertile ground, their actions grew into a revolution that changed the course of history.

A Heritage Remembered

Bound in red, white, and blue, the quilt reflects the colors of our nation’s flag and the shared heritage it represents. The red backing and border speak to the bloodshed and sacrifice that made freedom possible, while the stars throughout the quilt remind us of the many voices and states that form our union. Together, they affirm a living legacy—*one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*