



### **Dorothy and Milton Whiting at the dedication of the chapel at Veterans Inc. in Shrewsbury.**

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Photo Credit: *Lindsay Corcoran*

SHREWSBURY, Mass. – Those at Veterans Inc. often refer to Milton and Dorothy Whiting as their "Christmas Elves" and on Tuesday they honored the couple by naming the Chapel at the Shrewsbury location in their honor.

The Whitings, from Worcester, have been volunteering at the Veterans Inc. homeless shelter and have donated more than \$150,000 to help renovate both the Shrewsbury and Worcester locations.

"Milton and I may have given a material gift to help veterans, but it really is a gift of love," Dorothy said. "We may be helping in one small part of the world, but we care about all veterans. Our duty to the veterans will never be complete."

Vin Perrone, President and CEO of Veterans Inc., recalled one of the largest donations the Whitings made to the Worcester location.

"They were wrapping Christmas gifts and saw the kitchen we were using and said they wanted to make a donation," Perrone recalled.

*"It was a dump," Dorothy chimed in.*

Perrone said he was expecting them to buy a toaster oven or coffee maker, but the Whitings came back with an offer of \$50,000 in renovations for the kitchen.

"They've done an equal amount of financial and volunteer support in Shrewsbury," said Denis Leary, Executive Director of Veterans Inc.

When asked why they donate, Dorothy said she could think of only one answer.

"Freedom is not free," Dorothy said. "There aren't bombs landing in my garden and I'm thankful for that."

Milton is himself an Air Force veteran, serving during World War II as a mechanic on B-12 bombers.

The Whitings have been married for 64 years. They have resided in Worcester for most of their lives.