



NEWEST CHAPTER OF GUARDIAN ANGELS HAS OLDEST MEMBER

Phaedra Laird (plaird@nbc40.net) - 5/15/08 06:08 pm

Last Updated - 5/16/08 02:39 pm

[E-mail Story](#) [Print Story](#) [Watch Video](#)

MILLVILLE--The city of Millville graduated 13 Guardian Angels this week to help watch over the city. While they may be one of the newest chapters, they're already setting records, thanks to a spunky great-grandma who's determined to make a difference.

83 year-old Dottie Wilkerson is on a mission to save her city. "I did tell my kids that before I die, I'd make 'em proud of me." The spunky great-grandmother may be tiny, but she's got a big heart. She's determined to clean up Millville as the oldest Guardian Angel in the organization's history. "All I want to do is make a difference," said Wilkerson.

While patrolling the city, Wilkerson stands proud, although she doesn't stand very tall. At not even five feet, this 86 pound lady is a local celebrity. "Dottie is well known in all of Millville," said Chapter President, David Benitez, "everywhere we go we gotta stop because everybody just wants to hug her and show her love."

"It's the most wonderful blessing thing that's ever happened to me, besides my kids," said Wilkerson.

The Millville chapter just graduated 13 new angels this week. The organization decided to start a chapter here following a string of gang related violence and shootings in the city. "We asked 'em to come here," said Wilkerson, "we gotta give 'em a chance to help us."

The chapter president admits that he was initially skeptical about taking an older member, but once he met Wilkerson he quickly knew she would be the heart and soul of their operation. "She might be the oldest, but you look at her and talk to her, she sounds like the youngest," said Benitez, "she's a firecracker."

Despite walking through some of the city's worst neighborhoods, Wilkerson shows no fear. "She's a stick of dynamite," said Benitez, "she's the first one on patrol, she wants to go right to the drug dealers, she ain't afraid to jump in someone's face and tell them something."

"Because I feel like if it's my time to get shot, it's my time to go," said Wilkerson, "or God wouldn't let it happen."

But Wilkerson isn't planning on going anywhere. With the support of her fellow angels, you can see her on any given day, trying to make her city a safer place.