

Written by Georgia Evans

Memorial Day is a very important holiday to recognize all the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the U.S. military. We all come together to honor those who lost their lives and defended our country for us. We come together whether for a barbeque or parade to remember all of those amazing people.

Memorial Day, for me, means to remember those that passed while serving, and making sure that the men and women that lost their lives get recognition for all of their courage and bravery. I can connect to Memorial Day a little bit because my grandpa fought in the Korean War and he was very lucky and survived. He was on active duty on the front lines of combat. Unfortunately, he had a lot of friends that were killed in the war. Some passed away right next to him on the front lines. One of the most amazing things that my grandpa did on Memorial Day was that he would wear his uniform (while it still fit him) and his hat to give respect and remembrance to those who lost their lives while serving. I think that was an incredible and amazing way to honor fallen soldiers.

Typically, people under 13 or 14 look at Memorial Day as a whole day of fun times with friends, having good food, and attending parades. But after writing this essay I can look at Memorial Day differently, and with a change in heart. Now I look at this holiday as one that is all about remembering all the wonderful men and women that lost their lives fighting for us in the line of duty. After writing this I walked away with new information about this important holiday and also learned more about my grandpa that I never have asked about and that I have never known before. So in conclusion, Memorial Day means to me celebrating and recognizing all of the amazing, brave people that lost their lives in the line of duty while fighting for our freedoms. And for that I am forever grateful.

Written by Garrett Scalercio

To me, Memorial Day means more than just the unofficial start of summer with the family gatherings and the barbecues. Rather, it is a holiday that honors those who have served for our country and died in service. We often forget the differences between other military recognition holidays such as Armed Forces Day and Veteran's Day. Veteran's Day is meant to honor servicemen still with us, such as my dad who has served our country in the military. It is important to honor those servicemen because they take time in their daily life to help keep this country safe too, such as when my dad was in the Navy Reserve. He had to be gone for many trips across the country and places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

However, Memorial Day is different because it honors the thousands of soldiers who have died in war and gave their life to keep this country safe. This makes it unique and very special. We should always remember those people, both those who lost their lives, those wounded and disabled, and those who are currently serving because who knows what life would be like without them. This country would not have been protected and we could not have faced the threats from Germany, Japan and others who threatened us all. But, because of the thousands who gave their life for this country, gave up their future, our nation is able to stand today as a nation under God with liberty and justice for all. I believe that while we are enjoying our family gatherings and barbecues, we should also be reverent for a moment and think about those who have died for our country and are able to keep this nation still standing.