



Memorial Day 2013

As we approach our nation's Memorial Day, we reflect upon the great sacrifices made by those who have fought and continue to fight for our freedom, and we honor their heroic service to our country and each one of us.

At a Veteran's Day ceremony in November 1985 at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, then-President Ronald Reagan offered these words of praise and inspiration:

It is, in a way, an odd thing to honor those who died in defense of our country, in defense of us, in wars far away. The imagination plays a trick. We see these soldiers in our mind as old and wise. We see them as something like the Founding Fathers, grave and gray haired. But most of them were boys when they died, and they gave up two lives—the one they were living and the one they would have lived. When they died, they gave up their chance to be husbands and fathers and grandfathers. They gave up their chance to be revered old men. They gave up everything for our country, for us. And all we can do is remember.

We hope that we will always remember and appreciate the incredible liberties we enjoy and those who have helped make them possible.