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Day of Remembrance

Memorial Day is an American public holiday to celebrate the men and women who died in the battles of the United States. Originally, Memorial Day was known as Decoration Day after the Civil War ended. It was not until 1971 that Memorial Day became a national holiday.

A lot of people celebrate this holiday by visiting the graves of their fallen loved ones, or by participating in parades and family gatherings. To me, before learning about military life, I just thought it was another regular holiday and I was happy that we got a day off of school, because that meant my mom wouldn't bug me about getting to bed on time.

Now that I'm older and understand the importance of this holiday, Memorial Day is more than a just day off of school, it's more than a day off of work, it is more than a reason to have a cookout with your family. Memorial Day is the remembrance of the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for this beautiful country that we live in today.

Memorial Day should not be the only day we remember our fallen soldiers. It ought to be more than that. Memorial Day should serve as a reminder that we need to show gratitude for their sacrifice. Everyday that we live in this country, someone out there gave their life so we could live a sustainable and independent life in America. Memorial Day is also the remembrance of the people wearing the uniform today and the people that wore the uniform in the past.

Because of the people that fought for our country, they let people like my mother bring their kids to the United States to look for a better future, to have a better education, and to have freedom and the pursuit of happiness. Memorial Day should not just be celebrated in the United States because, this country gives the opportunity for people who dropped out of school at a young age to have something to live for, so they won't be stuck in a corrupt country, stuck in an ongoing war, and for them just to give their families a better and prosperous life. Being here at a military base and learning about military life made me realize the hard work and dedication soldiers put forth daily for this great country, and the glory and honor that should be given to our fallen soldiers.

Memorial Day to me is not only recognizing someone's sacrifice, but rather cherishing their memory for the rest of our lives because those men and women earned our respect. I salute the flag of the United States of America and will continue to do so, because it is a reminder of our fallen soldiers. It is my dream to someday serve my country with honor, pride, and respect. It is also my honor to carry the legacy of our past soldiers forever in my heart.