

What does Veterans Day mean to me?

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A veteran creates pride in me for my country. Even though I wasn't born in the U.S., I am extremely honored to live and be a part of a nation that someone would respect enough to sacrifice their life to protect its people. War. A three letter word that can decide the fate of the world and its nations, and all we have to thank for saving us so far are the veterans. Getting to know a veteran's dedication allows me to consider how meaningful the values of our country truly are. As I come to respect these values as much as they have, I begin to appreciate them more clearly. This appreciation for my country's values makes me extremely respected to be a part of it.

When I think of Veterans Day, I immediately think of safety. It makes me feel safe to know that there are these brave men and women in America that are here to protect my family and I whenever there's danger.

Veterans Day also makes me feel very lucky. I get to spend time with my family everyday, while these Veterans are all over the world and don't have time to spend with their families because they're too busy keeping us safe. This just makes me realize that I'm one of the lucky ones. Even though none of my family members were or are a part of the military, these soldiers that are protecting us, are a part of my family. It feels good to know that there are people who have my back.

" America has many rights that other countries don't. The rights that we have as citizens, including the freedom of speech, the right to stand up for what you believe in, freedom and right to express our religion, the rights of having an education, the freedom to have a representative government, and

freedom for women's rights. These kinds of rights help to make this a free country. When veterans go and fight, they are protecting these rights.

Veteran's Day is not just a day that is celebrated to commemorate those who fought that war so valiantly, but it is also a day for me to remind myself that our nation is free because of these veterans.

Herbert Clark Hoover once said, "Older men declare war. But it is youth that must fight and die. And it is youth who must inherit the tribulation, the sorrow, and the triumphs that are the aftermath of war." We know that veterans are honorable, courageous, self-sacrificing, duty-bound, etc. However, those attributes can describe any person, whether they are veterans or not. Veterans are truly special because they fight for the freedom of their country, and most importantly, they fight for the freedom of Americans that they don't know. People that are complete strangers. Veterans Day is a time to celebrate and honor those who have sacrificed their lives to protect and serve their country, and the citizens that live in it.