



Happy  
Veterans  
Day

VETERANS DAY



Saluting Our Veterans

# VETERANS DAY HISTORY

Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the United States in honor of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918 that signaled the end of World War I, known as Armistice Day.

1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed, which moved the celebration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. The law went into effect in 1971, but in 1975 President Gerald Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11, due to the important historical significance of the date.



# VETERANS DAY HISTORY CONTINUED



Veterans Day commemorates veterans of all wars.

Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of WWI and WWII on or near November 11<sup>th</sup>.

In Europe, Great Britain and the commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11:00 a.m. every November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Every Veterans Day and Memorial Day, Arlington National Cemetery holds an annual memorial service. The cemetery is home to the graves of over 400,000 people, most of whom served in the military.

# VETERANS TODAY C. 2018



18.2 million living veterans served during at least one war as of 2018.

9% of veterans are women.

7 million veterans served during the Vietnam War.

3 million veterans have served in support of the War on Terrorism.

Of the 16 million Americans who served during World War II, about 496, 777 were still alive as of 2018.

Connecticut was home to the highest percentage of WWII veterans as of 2018 at 7.1%.

# VETERANS TODAY C.2018 (CONTINUED)

2 million veterans served during the Korean War.

As of 2019, the top three states with the highest percentage of veterans were Alaska, Maine and Montana, respectively.



# VETERANS DAY TIMELINE

**November 11, 1918-**The Armistice ending WWI begins at 11 a.m.

**1919-**President Woodrow Wilson proclaims November 11 as Armistice Day.

**November 11, 1921-**The first unknown soldier is reburied at Arlington National Cemetery. The tomb has the words inscribed, “Here rest in honored glory an American soldier known but to God.”

**May 13, 1938-**Armistice Day becomes a federal holiday.

**June 1, 1954-**President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a bill changing Armistice Day to Veterans Day in order to include all U.S. Veterans.

# VETERANS DAY TIMELINE (CONTINUED)

May 30, 1958-Unknown soldiers from World War II and the Korean War are reburied next to the Unknown Soldier from WWI.

1968-Congress changes the date of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October in order to give federal employees a three-day weekend. The change begins in 1971.

September 25, 1975-President Gerald Ford changes the date of Veterans Day back to November 11. The change begins in 1978.

May 28, 1984-An Unknown Soldier from the Vietnam War is reburied in Arlington National Cemetery. In 1998, he was identified through DNA tests as Michael Blassie, a 24-year-old pilot shot down in 1972 on the border of Cambodia.

**Thank you!**  
**TO THOSE**  
**That served!!**



**HAPPY VETERANS DAY!**