

So Gallantly
Waving



Words of Patriotism
& Gratitude

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by

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Dedication

TO ALL the brave men and women who have gone to fight, some of whom never return, a grateful nation gives you and your families our deepest gratitude. You are true heroes and you are not forgotten.

CONTENTS

Preface	<i>ix</i>
Pledge of Allegiance.	<i>1</i>
Our Glorious Flag.	<i>4</i>
Little Boy	<i>8</i>
The News	<i>12</i>
The Bugle	<i>16</i>
Hidden Scars	<i>20</i>
Cross Guards	<i>24</i>
The Parade	<i>30</i>
The Day of Reckoning	<i>34</i>
Ways to Show Your Patriotism	<i>40</i>
About the Author	<i>43</i>

Preface

IN THIS time of tremendous turmoil and change in our country, we each need reminders of the great sacrifices made by many people throughout America's history. A democracy isn't a stagnant thing, but a living, breathing entity that requires constant vigilance and care. It is incumbent upon each citizen to remember that our freedoms are not free. They have come with a price and must not be taken for granted. When we forget the price of freedom, we also forget the value of freedom. Remember, maintaining freedom is easier than restoring it. We must each do our part in that regard.



Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it
stands, one nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.



“We identify the flag with almost everything we hold dear on earth, peace, security, liberty, our family, our friends, our home ... but when we look at our flag and behold it emblazoned with all our rights we must remember that it is equally a symbol of our duties. Every glory that we associate with it is the result of duty done.”

— Calvin Coolidge

“There can be no daily democracy without daily citizenship.”

— Ralph Nader

“The price of apathy towards public affairs is to be ruled by evil men.”

— Plato

“Sure I wave the American flag. Do you know a better flag to wave? Sure I love my country with all her faults. I’m not ashamed of that, never have been and never will be.”

— John Wayne

“The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all.”

— John F. Kennedy

“Freedom is when the people can speak, democracy is when the government listens.”

— Alastair Farrugia

“Protest beyond the law is not a departure from democracy; it is absolutely essential to it.”

— Howard Zinn



Our Glorious Flag

Our flag is more than fifty stars
backed by navy blue.
It's more than stripes of
red and white
the symbol waves so true.

Our history is woven within
each star and stripe.
Because of brave patriots
who weren't afraid to fight.

The flag has gone to jungles and
deserts far away.
And covered fallen heroes
as they met their last day.

It's proudly waved at our parades and
held in youngsters' hands.
Even planted next to graves when the
brave no longer stand.



The blood and tears of patriots
are stored within our flag.
They knew the fear, but persevered
and never tried to brag.

So, when I see our flag unfurled and
clutched in someone's hand.
I stand in silent reverence
because I understand.

A lump wells up within my throat
as a silent tear rolls down.
I know my freedom is a gift
and liberty the crown.

Give a prayer of gratitude for the
price those brave souls paid.
Heroes all who did their best
as freedom's cause was made.

The flag is oh so beautiful and
such a lovely sight.
So, stand up straight, salute the flag,
revere the stars and stripes.