



# THE PATRIOT POST®

## VOICE OF ESSENTIAL LIBERTY

BRIEF

MONDAY, MAY 31, 2010

### THE FOUNDATION

“Our obligations to our country never cease but with our lives.” --John Adams

### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Memorial Day is reserved by American Patriots as a day to honor the service and sacrifice of fallen men and women who donned our Armed Forces uniforms with honor. We at The Patriot Post pay our humble respects to those that gave the ultimate sacrifice as members of the United States Armed Forces. We will remember you always.

Accordingly, this tribute is in honor of our fallen American Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen.

Please join Patriots honoring Memorial Day across our great nation on Monday by observing a moment of silence at 3:00 p.m. local time for remembrance and prayer. Flags should be flown at half-staff until noon, your local time. Please give a personal word of gratitude and comfort to surviving family members who grieve for a beloved warrior fallen the battlefield defending our cherished liberties.

(Also, see The Patriot's [tribute to our Armed Forces](#).)

### INSIGHT

“At the grave of a hero we end, not with sorrow at the inevitable loss, but with the contagion of his courage; and with a kind of desperate joy we go back to the fight.” --Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (1841-1935)

### FOR THE RECORD

“At countless funerals and memorial services for those who lost their lives in the service of our country, I hear the question, ‘Why is such a good young person taken from us in the prime of life?’ Plato, the Greek philosopher, apparently sought to resolve the issue by observing, ‘Only the dead have seen the end of war.’ I prefer to take my solace in the words of Jesus to the Apostle John: ‘Father, I will that those you have given me, be with me where I am.’ ... Those now in uniform deserve our thanks, for no nation has ever had a better military force than the one we have today. And no accolade to those presently in our country's service is greater than honoring the veterans who preceded them on Memorial Day.” --Lt. Col. Oliver North, ret.

### CULTURE

“Be sure this Memorial Day ... you are a part of those Americans asking God to bless the heroes we remember who never really set out to be heroes. As the kin of a fallen soldier once proclaimed, ‘Each loved his life as much as we love ours. Each had a place in the world, a family waiting and friends to see again. They thought of the future just as we do, with plans and hopes for a long life. But they left it all behind when they went to war, and parted with it forever when they died so that you and I might enjoy freedom today.’ On this Memorial day set aside time from celebrating summer for you, your family and friends to honor and remember those who have given their lives for you because as Robert Orr so beautifully said, ‘To live in the hearts of those you leave behind is never to die.’ Frankly speaking, saluting their memory is our duty, and on this day, it is our privilege. The time is now to show we care and to honor their sacrifice not only this Memorial Day, but every day. Honoring our military heroes assures their memory does indeed live in our hearts and thus, these heroes will in the name of freedom never die.” --columnist Frank Jordan

### OPINION IN BRIEF

“The call to America's roots is also a call to her foundations. The alabaster and granite headstones of our slain veterans are symbolic of the stones that are foundational to any great structure. They are what make a nation strong but more so; they exist to make a nation immovable. They are not just building blocks but they are anchors on which we depend in times of great peril or calamity. They are costly, solid, polished and usually inscribed with the names and noble acts of the donors who lay only a few feet below. Every gravestone of every soldier is a foundational cornerstone of this nation; with the name of each donor indelibly chiseled to its face. While the headstones like cornerstones stay in their place and the poppies whose seasons come and go salute the fallen; the torch is handed off to the living. It cannot be seen by the naked eye but it is the flame that burns in the hearts of all patriots who know they must not let its flames diminish for even a moment of time. Will America let this torch abate in these trying times? Will the fluctuations of our economy, politics and standing in the world make us lay down the torch? Everyone who loves America and understands what our veterans, alive and dead, have paid to show their

love of our nation, already knows the answer to this question. The flame will be threatened in the strong winds of change and uncertainty and its light may flicker under the encroachment of evil forces but it will never be quenched. The living must not rest at the expense of the dead. The price of their rest is already paid but, the maintenance and perpetuity of their rest is in our hands.” --columnist Michael Bresciani

## THE GIPPER

“[It is] altogether fitting that we have this moment to reflect on the price of freedom and those who have so willingly paid it. For however important the matters of state before us this next week, they must not disturb the solemnity of this occasion. Nor must they dilute our sense of reverence and the silent gratitude we hold for those who are buried here. The willingness of some to give their lives so that others might live never fails to evoke in us a sense of wonder and mystery. One gets that feeling here on this hallowed ground, and I have known that same poignant feeling as I looked out across the rows of white crosses and Stars of David in Europe, in the Philippines, and the military cemeteries here in our own land. Each one marks the resting place of an American hero and, in my lifetime, the heroes of World War I, the Doughboys, the GI’s of World War II or Korea or Vietnam. They span several generations of young Americans, all different and yet all alike, like the markers above their resting places, all alike in a truly meaningful way. Winston Churchill said of those he knew in World War II they seemed to be the only young men who could laugh and fight at the same time. A great general in that war called them our secret weapon, ‘just the best darn kids in the world.’ Each died for a cause he considered more important than his own life. Well, they didn’t volunteer to die; they volunteered to defend values for which men have always been willing to die if need be, the values which make up what we call civilization. And how they must have wished, in all the ugliness that war brings, that no other generation of young men to follow would have to undergo that same experience. As we honor their memory today, let us pledge that their lives, their sacrifices, their valor shall be justified and remembered for as long as God gives life to this nation. And let us also pledge to do our utmost to carry out what must have been their wish: that no other generation of young men will ever have to share their experiences and repeat their sacrifice. Earlier today, with the music that we have heard and that of our National Anthem -- I can’t claim to know the words of all the national anthems in the world, but I don’t know of any other that ends with a question and a challenge as ours does: Does that flag still

wave o’er the land of the free and the home of the brave? That is what we must all ask.” --President Ronald Reagan, May 31, 1982

## READER COMMENTS

“To The Patriot Post staff: Our school recently performed a production entitled ‘United We Stand,’ a tribute to our great nation, her Founders, and those who have fought to ensure our continued freedom. As an avid reader of The Patriot Post, we used this event to raise funds for Operation Shield of Strength. Please find enclosed a contribution from some of the parents and students of our school. We appreciate all the men and women who serve in support of God and country. May this gift be a small token of appreciation on behalf of a grateful people. God Bless America!” --The Rock School, Gainesville Florida

“I am a DoD/Navy Civilian employee working on weapons development, and am blessed, beyond belief, to be working towards our continued defense. I have read The Patriot Post for over a decade. It is #1 of two principle sources I use for news, policy and opinion. It is my prayer, and deepest hope that this small contribution helps in some small way to keep you going. May God’s blessings continue on you, your mission, and our Patriots in uniform.” --Ridgecrest, California

## THE LAST WORD

“We were young. We have died. Remember us. ... We have done what we could But until it is finished it is not done. ... We have given our lives But until it is finished no one can know what our lives gave. ... Our deaths are not ours, They are yours, They will mean what you make them. They say, Whether our lives, and our deaths were for peace and a new hope Or for nothing We cannot say. It is you who must say this. ... We leave you our deaths, Give them their meaning.” --Archibald MacLeish, American poet, writer and the Librarian of Congress

Veritas vos Liberabit -- Semper Vigilo, Fortis, Paratus, et Fidelis! Mark Alexander, Publisher, for *The Patriot Post*’s editors and staff. Read online at <http://patriotpost.us>

(Please pray for our Armed Forces standing in harm’s way around the world, and for their families -- especially families of those fallen Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, who granted their lives in defense of American liberty.)