



**From the desk of
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Department Commander
The American Legion
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This Saturday is Veterans Day.

A day to celebrate those who served our Nation as a member of our armed forces. A day when we, as a Nation, pause to thank our Veterans for their service.

Each generation of Americans has been called upon to oppose tyranny and oppression.

Each generation has been called to serve, and we should strive to maintain a connection to their legacy.

During an Honor Flight, Veterans travel as a group to Washington, D.C. to tour the various memorials and meet with our elected leaders. Many Veterans choose to make this trip to connect with those they lost and those who served in their time.

Over time, we have seen Honor Flights transition from generation to generation: from World War II Veterans to Korean War Veterans, to Vietnam War and now, to Gulf War Veterans.

An Honor Flight is inspiring in many ways, but two stand out.

My adopted Father-In-Law Pat leaves today for his earned his tour on an Honor Flight. This organization is doing great things.

First, it is a manifestation of the American spirit that drives service and sacrifice in the defense of freedom. You cannot help but feel that connection across generations as you hear their stories and see the emotion in their eyes.

Second, there is always a crowd of other Americans approaching these Veterans to thank them and to shake their hand — fellow Americans seeking to build a connection, however fleeting, with those who swore to give their life in our defense.

Happy Veterans Day, I am so proud to continue serving with you.

Steve
Your State Commander