



# Honor and Remember

Education Information

11 2014

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- On December 29, 2005, George Anthony Lutz II (Tony) was killed by a sniper's bullet while he was on patrol in Fallujah, Iraq. His family and friends endured the shock, emotional agony and overwhelming loss that accompanied the news of Tony's death, just like the many families who have suffered the same tragedy.
- In the months that followed Tony's funeral, his father, George, visited other families who had lost loved ones in the Iraq war. He began to sense that he had joined the ranks of a unique fellowship. These families were only the latest additions to a group that originated with the American Revolution, when the first soldiers to shed their blood for our freedom gave their lives.
- George found another commonality among the families of fallen soldiers. After their grief had transitioned to numbness and finally to acceptance, many families wanted to know two things: their sacrifice was not in vain and the nation would never forget. These concerns led George on a quest to discover if there was a universally recognized symbol that specifically acknowledges the American service men and women who never made it home. To his surprise, he found nothing. Thus the Honor and Remember Flag was conceived.





- **Mission:** To create, establish and promote a nationally recognized flag that would fly continuously as a visible reminder to all Americans of the lives lost in defense of our national freedoms. All Military lives lost not only in action but also in service, from our nation's inception.
  - **Rationale:** In our over 200 year history there has never been an official national symbol that specifically recognizes in gratitude and respect the ultimate sacrifice made by members of the United States military in service to our nation. The Honor and Remember Flag was created for that purpose.
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- To promote broad national awareness of and groundswell interest in the flag, so that military, government and educational facilities as well as households throughout the country would begin flying the Honor and Remember Flag in recognition of our nation's fallen warriors.
  - To place one personalized Honor and Remember Flag in the hands of immediate families who have lost a loved one in military service to America.
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The Honor and Remember Flag's design is distinctive, yet simple. Each detail on the flag symbolizes an important part of the overall meaning of the flag's message.



The Red Field represents the blood spilled by brave men and women in America's military throughout our history, who willingly gave their lives so that we all would remain free.

The Blue Star represents active service in military conflict. This symbol originated with World War I, but on this flag it signifies service through all generations from the American Revolution to present day.



The White Border beneath and surrounding the gold star recognizes the purity of sacrifice. There is no greater price an American can pay than to give his or her life in service to our country.



The Gold Star signifies the ultimate sacrifice of a warrior in active service who will not return home. Gold reflects the value of the life that was given.



The Folded Flag signifies the final tribute to an individual life that a family sacrificed and gave to the nation.



The Flame is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life yet burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.

We will always Honor their selfless sacrifice and Remember them individually by name.

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## Flag Flash April 1, 2014

- Have you flashed your Flag yet? What? Is this a new craze you haven't yet heard? Absolutely. I have just recently been introduced to the term selfie and I must confess sometimes societal tipping points often escape me. But what began to make instant sense was a different idea, the concept of flashing your flag. And it translates exactly how it sounds. Bear with me as I explain.
  - Last year in May of 2013 our organization declared the entire month to be Honor and Remember month. (If you missed the reasoning and explanation please read our website bog.) Meaning that throughout the entire 31 days of May our hope is that everyone across America would give thought to the tens of thousands of Americans who have given their lives for our freedom. Simply by focusing every day on a single or group of military heroes through the entire month. By the time memorial day comes around we would all be that much more appreciative of who has sacrificed for what most of us take for granted. And we would have remembered each specifically by name. Last year was a great start and 2014 is already beginning to explode. We anticipate a national effort to honor men and women everywhere everyday throughout May.
  - A major element of this years initiative is what we are calling a "Flag Flash" A short 5 second video made simply on any Smart Phone that shows everyone that you Honor and Remember. Two most important elements of this Flash, 1. You must be holding an Honor and Remember Flag, big or small, any size will do... and 2. You must say the words Honor and Remember somewhere in the video. Here are a few examples.
  - "We are members of American Legion Post 280 in Chesapeake, Virginia and we Honor and Remember"
  - "I am the Governor of Texas and I Honor and Remember" or the mayor, delegate, senator etc.
  - "I am a veteran of the US navy and I Honor and Remember" or Army marines, etc
  - "I Honor and Remember the sacrifice of my hero Capt John J. Edwards" or friend, father, cousin etc.
  - "I am an American patriot and I Honor and Remember" "I am a (Navy, Army, Coast Guard) veteran and I Honor and Remember"
  - "We are Atlantic Shores High School in Virginia beach, VA and we Honor and Remember"
  - "We are the 82nd Airborne from Ft Bragg, NC and we Honor and Remember"
  - "I am (celebrity, professional athlete etc. name) and I Honor and Remember"
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- If you are a Gold Star family that has received a personalized flag then please hold your flag and honor your loved one. “We are the parents of SSG Mark A. Stets Jr and we Honor and Remember”
  - “I am the father of CPL George A. Lutz II and I Honor and Remember” “I am the mother/wife etc of Lt. Todd Weaver and I Honor and Remember”
  - These should be enough examples for you to create your own and limited by your own creativity,
  - You get the idea, Flash your Flag! Say whatever you feel appropriate, be serious and respectful, and use whatever background fits your context. Home, school, vso, post, work, memorials and more
  - Three simple rules, 1. Keep to 5-7 seconds, 2. Hold an Honor and Remember Flag of any size, 3. Include the words Honor and Remember in what you say. Oh yes and 4, post to your social networking pages, facebook and twitter and
  - email to [flash@honorandremember.org](mailto:flash@honorandremember.org)
  - Another thought is to send them to your local TV stations and let’s flood their emails with these short tributes they may even run on their networks in May! The more professionally done the better. Practice until you get one you like.
  - If you are receiving this and work at a TV network, encourage those around your viewing audience to send these your way!
  - We will also post and share these vignettes on our pages and may eventually string them together for longer tributes. We want Flag Flashes to go Viral, showing America throughout the month of May that we do want to publicly say thank you for all those individual lives that have been given for freedom’s cause and specific appreciation to all of the families that gave those heroes to us. So Flash your Flag, start now, and in 5 seconds you can be done and showing your support and raising awareness.
  - We would like your flag flashes to be as professional as possible, you may not know exactly how to pull this off. Here are a few suggestions. 1. Use your Smart phone; that’s the easiest and quickest way to get this done, unless of course you are a professional. 2. Get a friend to help, it will be hard to hold a phone and a flag and get the proper distance etc. 3. Lighting is important; unless you have a brightly lit indoor area do this outside. Be sure to have the light toward you and not at your back.
  - Any other questions please let us know. Let’s impact this nation with a positive statement of appreciation and raise awareness for the reason why our free nation exists. Publicly recognizing the sacrifice of our military fallen heroes and their families, together! Start flashing your Flag!
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# Ways YOU can help..

- The following is a simple list of things everyone can do to spread the word about our mission:
    1. Be sure that everyone in your sphere of influence (i.e. relatives, friends, co-workers, church members, etc.) know about the Honor and Remember campaign. Encourage them to go to our web site [www.honorandremember.org](http://www.honorandremember.org) and sign the petition. Also, please make them aware that we offer a variety of merchandise to outwardly display their support.
    2. Encourage organizations that have a flagpole (i.e. businesses, churches, veterans groups, etc.) to purchase and fly the Honor and Remember Flag. Wherever you see an American flag flying is a potential location for the Honor and Remember Flag.
    3. Write a letter to your city council requesting that it adopt a resolution officially recognizing the Honor and Remember Flag. Many cities across America have done this and are continuing to do so. Most city council's have a resolution on file and will modify it for our needs. We can help you with wording the request. You can use the wording of congressional bill HR 1034 <[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h1034ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h1034ih.txt.pdf)> as a guideline.
    4. Contact your state representatives and ask them to seek a resolution adopting the Honor and Remember Flag at the state level. There are several states that have already endorsed and adoption the legislation. Again, use HR 1034 as a guideline. (PA link) <<http://your4state.com/content/fulltext/?cid=67201>>
    5. Contact your U.S. congressional representative and ask them to co-sponsor HR 1034. It is important that they co-sponsor and actually place their name on the bill, which is currently in the House Judiciary Committee. They must contact the office of Rep. Randy Forbes from VA.
    6. If you know of a Gold Star family (family that has lost someone in military service) in your community, please consider sponsoring an Honor and Remember Flag for them. Sponsoring a flag means paying for the personalization of a flag that pays tribute to their loved one and organizing a special presentation of the flag to the family.
    7. Consider setting up a table at local events to have petitions signed and to hand out Honor and Remember literature.
    8. Contact local radio and TV stations and newspapers and educate them about the Honor and Remember Flag. We are very willing to do interviews to educate the public and increase awareness. Contact when there are flag presentations or fundraising events.
    9. Call or write to national radio and TV talk show personalities and educate them about the flag, encouraging them to visit the Honor and Remember website for more information. Sean Hannity is a good start. Also please thank Dennis Miller for his strong support!
    10. Share your ideas about raising awareness for Honor and Remember with us. We are always looking for new ways to get the word out.
    11. There are many expenses involved in conducting this national campaign. Any support you can give is essential. If every supporter donated just \$5.00 a month we would be able to provide flags to thousands of families in total fulfillment of our charitable goal. Honor and Remember, Inc. is an IRS approved 501(c) (3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible. Please Donate Here <<http://www.honorandremember.info/donation.php>>.
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Thank you for your support  
for OUR Gold Star Families!

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