

*“Nothing is politically right
which is morally wrong.”*
– Daniel O’Connell



*“Free and fair discussion will ever be
found the firmest friend of truth.”*
– George Campbell

MISSOURI SENATE

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Senator Stouffer’s Tribute to Those Who Have Fallen for Our Freedom

The bright red, white and blue, stars and stripes blow graciously in the wind. As we pass by the flying colors some do not give it another thought, some think of the family and friends who have died so it can still fly, and others decorate their entire possessions with the colors of freedom.

As many American Flags mark the graves of the soldiers that have fallen this Memorial Day, it is a reminder of how much each person has sacrificed so we have the freedom of speech, religion, and the right to vote. Our nation is one whose independence was won by those in the armed services.

A tremendous sense of country, nation, patriotism and pride fills us whenever we see the images of another Navy, Air Force, Marines, Army, Reserve or Guard unit called to duty and sent on their way. When the B-2 Stealth Bomber becomes a speck on the horizon, when the armories have emptied, a sense of gratitude builds within us.

One can look to the history books to get the sense of debt we owe the people sent off to war. Perhaps no better lesson serves than to turn on the evening news or read the day's paper. Right here today, thousands of American men and women are defending our freedom in Iraq, Afghanistan and a host of other spots around the globe.

Our military men and women know and we know in our hearts the job will never be completed. Much remains to be done in the war on terrorism. If the war does end, there will be someone else knocking at Freedom's door.

One must always stop for a moment to remember as you see the American Flag hear "The Star-Spangled Banner" or a 21 Gun Salute. We should be reminded everyday those who have fallen to give us FREEDOM.

I am reminded of Toby Keith's song "American Solider" which perfectly states a soldier's view;

I've counted up the cost, I know the sacrifice,

Oh, and I don't want to die for you,

But if dyin's asked of me,

I'll bear that cross with an honor,

'Cause freedom don't come free.

I'm an American soldier, an American.

If you have questions or comments about this issue or any other issue please do not hesitate to call my office toll free at 866-768-3987 or email bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

Please check out my Website for the many services my office will be providing throughout my term at www.senate.mo.gov/stouffer.