



Office of Jason Crowell State Senator

The Crowell Connection

Senator Jason Crowell proudly represents the people of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

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In Memorial

On this coming Monday, many Americans will assemble before monuments, visit cemeteries and line the streets during parades commemorating the more than a million American service members who have lost their lives in this nation's wars. Others will gather with family and friends to mark the day of observance with a picnic or barbecue.

Although the type of celebration may vary from person to person, what we all celebrate stays the same—the ultimate sacrifice for liberty. We live in a nation that has remained the flagship land of the free due to the brave members of the armed services who have put our country before their own lives. Freedom has always been at the forefront of the American battlegrounds, whether the wars were fought on our own soil or on lands across the seas.

As we live and breathe today, the ranks of the nation's veterans grow, some of whom will perish so that liberty can thrive. Thousands of American men and women are defending the tenets of democracy in Iraq, Afghanistan and a host of other politically unstable regions around the globe. As in all our wars past, America's service men and women are



“Flags In”- Each year, right before Memorial Day, soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery decorate each grave with an American flag- the only time during the year flags are permitted at all gravesites in the cemetery.

sacrificing a great deal



so that we here at home can enjoy the rights that their courage makes possible—the freedom of speech, the freedom to choose our own religion, the freedom to pursue our dreams.

When a soldier goes into warfare, it is with the knowledge that he or she might not return home. That recognition does not weaken their fight. And it is for that courageousness that we are forever indebted, and it is for the lost fight that we are full of sorrow.

The brave men and women who do not make it out of war alive are more than just a statistic or an engraved name in a plaque. Each is a person who was loved, who left behind a family, friends, a home and a community. Each one deserves to be remembered and honored for paying the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

This Memorial Day, I will be presenting a resolution to honor retired General James Livingston, a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor, who will be the guest speaker for the Memorial Day festivities held at Sikeston Veterans Park. As a living and breathing soldier for freedom, Gen. Livingston has the wisdom of what it is like to face death as they are called to defend freedom. If you are in the area, I invite you to join in the celebration.

No matter what you do on May 28, I encourage everyone to take time to reflect on the known and unknown lives of those who left this Earth in the name of the American ideals we cherish most. Your gratitude can be shown by simply never forgetting them nor what it is they died for.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

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