

AMERICANISM

September, 2023

It is now September and we have several patriotic days to remember. I would like to focus on **POW/MIA's**. We need to remember our nations prisoners of war and those missing in action. Fly your flag proudly to let everyone know that you are remembering our men and women that have not come home.

September 11 Patriot Day

Those we lost September 11, 2001, will forever hold a cherished place in our hearts and in the history of our nation. December 18, 2001, Congress authorized the President to designate September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day". Flags should be flown at half-staff on Patriot Day.

September 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

This day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.

Third Friday in September POW/MIA Recognition Day



Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day honors the commitments and the sacrifices made by our nation's prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. It is one of the six days specified by law on which the black **Prisoner of War/Missing in Action** flag shall be flown over federal facilities and cemeteries, post offices and military installations.

Last Sunday in September GOLD STAR MOTHER'S/FAMILY'S DAY

Gold Star Mother's/Family's Day honors mothers and families who have lost a service member in the line of duty or in support of military activities.

The name comes from the custom of families hanging Service Flags in the window of their homes. The Service Flag has a star for each family member in the armed forces. A blue star represents a family member in active-duty service, a silver star represents a family member wounded or injured in a war zone and a gold star represents a family member killed during active-duty and stands for sacrifice made for honor and freedom.

As my ambassador states, we need to recognize that **POW** is not just letters. It stands for **Prisoner of War**. A lot of our military men and women fought to keep us safe and became Prisoners of War with the enemy. We need to think about them and remember them. We want to bring all of our comrade's home again.

MIA stands for **Missing in Action**. Many of our men and women are missing and unaccountable for. In the state of Kansas there are:

Missing in action since WWII: 1,186

World War II MIA: 1,058

Korean War MIA: 99

Vietnam War MIA: 24

Cold War MIA: 5

Military branch with most missing in action: Army (623 unaccounted for)

Save the date:

The Eisenhower Vigil will be on October 13-14, 2023