

Military Days

February

National Salute to Veteran Patients

This is an observation on the week of February 14 for anyone with a Veteran member receiving medical treatment. It is a day to pay tribute to the patients in VA medical facilities and Veterans who receive care. It is also a day to raise community awareness of the VA medical center.

March

K-9 Veterans Day

K-9 Veterans Day is observed on March 13. It is a day to honor the military war dogs or military working dogs deployed all over the globe.

Medal of Honor Day

This is a day for recipients of the Medal of Honor, which is awarded by Congress. It is on March 25 and is meant to remember the sacrifices of members who have earned the highest of military honors.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day

This is on March 29, and it is meant to thank Vietnam veterans for their service and sacrifice. It is also a day to recognize the Allies' contributions and highlight advances during the war.

April

Gold Star Spouses Day

Gold Star Spouses refers to military members' surviving loved ones. On April 5, these loved ones are honored.

National Former Prisoners Of War (POW) Recognition Day

On every April 9, the nation honors over 500,000 Americans who were captured while serving. It is more specifically dedicated to the 60,000 to 80,000 U.S and Filipino military members who were seized by the Imperial Japanese army in 1942 at Bataan Peninsula, Philippines.

Purple Up! Day

This is a day for military kids. On this day, the DoD's Education Activity communities thank and show their support to military children by wearing purple.

National Military Brats Day

This day is observed on April 30. It is meant to celebrate "military brats" who are essentially, are or once were children of military members.

May

National Correctional Officers Week

This is the first week of May. It runs alongside the Public Service Recognition Week from May 1 to May 7. Since 1984, it has been a week to recognize correctional officers.

Silver Star Service Banner Day

The Silver Star Service Banner Day is on May 1, at the same time as Loyalty Day. It recognizes recipients of the Silver Star Medal and pays tributes to ill and wounded Veterans.

VE Day

This day (May 8) commemorates the U.S.'s victory in Europe, marking the end of World War II. It is the nation's 76th VE day this year (2022).

Military Spouse Appreciation Day

This is the Friday before Mothers Day. It is a presidentially-approved day for military spouses as part of the National Military Appreciation Month. It started in 1999, under an official Congress declaration.

Armed Forces Week

This is the week leading up to Armed Forces Day. Usually, there are flag raising events, parades, luncheons, and base-level gatherings. During this week, Americans remember the service of all the military's branches.

Children of Fallen Patriots Day

On May 13, children of service members who have passed away during service are honored. The date was set as the day Arlington National Cemetery was established.

Peace Officers Memorial Day

This is a day to remember law enforcement officers who have been disabled or have died while on duty. It was started in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy as part of National Police Week on the week of May 15.

Armed Forces Day

This is a joint celebration day on the third Saturday in May for all branches of the U.S military. As such, it honors everyone currently in service. The day was created by Louis Johnson in 1949, who at the time, was the Secretary of Defense.

Memorial Day

This is a federal holiday on May 30, which is the last Monday of the month. It pays tribute to the military members who died while serving. Originally, it was Decoration Day.

June

Women Veterans Day

This is on June 12. It is a day to recognize and honor women Veterans.

July

National Hire a Veteran Day

Since 2017, July 25 has been a day to urge employers to hire and promote qualified Veterans.

National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

The President annually issues a proclamation announcing July 27 as the day to honor Korean War veterans and their families. There are usually observances on military bases and at military cemeteries.

Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

The Army Chaplain Corps celebrates its birthday on July 29, which was when it was authorized by the Continental Congress.

August

Coast Guard Day

August 4 recognizes and honors the efforts of the Coast Guard.

Purple Heart Day

Also referred to as National Purple Heart Day, Purple Heart Appreciation Day, and Purple Heart Recognition Day, August 7 remembers the recipients of the Purple Heart.

Agent Orange Awareness Day

August 10 raises awareness of the effects of Agent Orange, which was used in the Vietnam War.

National Airborne Day

August 15 celebrates the Army parachute tradition and achievements of Army paratroopers.

September

V-J Day

September 2 is the American Date of the Victory over Japan in World War II.

Patriot Day

This is the National Day of Service and Remembrance for people who died because of 9/11.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

On the third Friday of the month, Americans remember the sacrifices of military members who have gone missing while in action and of POWs.

Gold Star Mother's Day

September 25 recognizes and honors mothers who have lost a child in service.

October

Day of the Deployed

October 25 honors deployed troops and their families.

November

National Veterans Small Business Week

November 1 to 5 celebrates Veterans and their contributions to American small businesses.

Veterans Day

This is an annual federal holiday on November 11. It honors all American Veterans with parades, ceremonies, virtual events, etc.

December

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

December 7 remembers all those who have died in the Pearl Harbor attack.

National Wreaths Across America

December 17 pays tributes to Veterans who have given up their lives in wars since the American Revolution.