

## A Marriage Minute™

A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.



### WHY REMEMBER

*This is my commandment that you love one another just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends." --Jesus (John 15:12,13)*

What does Memorial Day have to do with my marriage? Lots! You see, marriage is based on a commitment to love. The American soldier exemplifies that love when he risks everything so that you and I might know freedom –even his life! We can learn from them. I spent four years in the Air Force during the Viet Nam Era.

We were married only eight months when I had to leave for Korea, not to return to my new bride for 13 months. God kept me safe while I lost friends in Viet Nam. Honoring them reminds me of the real nature of love. It's not a feeling or having someone in my life to meet all my needs or wants. It's giving all that I have without guarantee, or expectation of getting anything in return. When I enlisted, some were running off to Canada because they weren't prepared to give -to love. Today, in the same way, many husbands and wives run off to their own places of escape to avoid giving their reasonable service because it calls for sacrifice. We need to be men and women of courage. We need to be prepared to give no matter the cost. When we look at the flag the red stripes should remind us of the blood that flowed to win our freedom, not just on the battlefields of war, but also on Calvary's hill to win our freedom from sin, hell, death and the grave. We are free to love, because of those who went before us, loving us, purchasing our freedom with their lives, including, and especially, the Son of God. Let's remember and commit to carrying on the tradition of loving no matter the cost. We can do no less.

**Question for The Both of Us:** Who do we know who has served to protect our freedom? How can we love sacrificially the way Jesus and the American soldier has loved us?

**Prayer for The Both of Us:** Lord, help us to remember those who gave their lives for us, and help us to honor them by giving our lives for you and each other, beginning in our marriage.

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*This MARRIAGE MINUTE is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Institute.  
Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)*

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