



Our nation stands in unity today to honor generations of Americans who served their country in uniform.

From our Military Honor Garden plaques near Stauffer Chapel on the Malibu campus, to memorials in cities and neighborhoods, and parades and gatherings across our great republic, we pay tribute to former service members whose normal lives were put on hold to serve their country, both at home and abroad, in peace and in war. Individuals that took an oath to support and defend our nation, our values, and our Constitution.

Veterans are a great reflection of America at its best; all were integral parts of the greatest military our world has ever known built on courage, integrity, and mutual respect. So on this day, we pause to give appreciation and thanks to veterans in our families and communities; because without them, we wouldn't be free.

Wearing our nation's cloth for 27 years was one of the greatest honors of my life. And today, I'm so proud to help represent and advocate for over 300 veterans that currently attend or work at Pepperdine. All moving beyond their call to military service and

looking for and finding new ways to serve those around us with Jesus as our ultimate example.

Because without Christ, we wouldn't have freedom.

For you have been called to live in freedom... use your freedom to serve one another in love. (Galatians 5:13)

Eric Leshinsky, Colonel, USAF (Ret)

Director, Student Veteran Affairs