

**REMEMBERING THEIR SACRIFICE**  
**A Memorial Day Observance at the National D-Day Memorial**  
**Bedford, Virginia, Eleven o’Clock, Monday, 29 May 2017**

Prelude.....Brass Five  
 Conductor, Gerald Pope

*Attention\**.....Brass Five

Invocation\*.....John Long  
 Director of Education, National D-Day Memorial Foundation

Presentation of the Colors \*.....Marine Corps League, Rockbridge Patriots Detachment 1351  
 Rockbridge and Bath County, Virginia

*The Star Spangled Banner\**.....Assembly

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn’s early light,  
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming?  
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,  
 O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
 And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
 O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
 O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Posting of the Colors\*.....Marine Corps League

Welcome.....April Cheek-Messier  
 President, National D-Day Memorial Foundation

Program Preamble.....John D. Long  
 Director of Education, National D-Day Memorial Foundation

*O Valiant Hearts*.....Brass Five

O valiant hearts who to your glory came	Proudly you gathered, rank on rank, to war
Through dust of conflict and through battle flame;	As who had heard God’s message from afar;
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,	All you had hoped for, all you had, you gave,
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.	To save mankind—yourselves you scorned to save.

Remembering Gold Star Families.....Hershel “Woody” Williams  
 U.S. Marines, Battle of Iwo Jima, Medal of Honor Recipient

Veterans Brick Project.....Martin Leamy  
 Director of Site Facilities and Risk Management, National D-Day Memorial Foundation

Dedicatory Prayer \*.....John Long

*Amazing Grace\**.....Burt Mitchell

Laying of Wreaths.....Marine Corps

Sounding of *Taps\**.....Brass Five

*Hymn to the Fallen*, John Williams.....Brass Five

Honoring Our Colors.....TBD

*To the Color\**.....Assembly

*God Bless America*\*.....Brass Five

Benediction\*.....John Long

Postlude and Procession to the Gold Star Memorial Unveiling.....Brass Five

\*Assembly Stands

**Additional Acknowledgments:**

24<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Living Historians; Brass Five; Keith Campbell; Brent Casey; David Gilmer; National D-Day Memorial Volunteers; Rockbridge Patriots Detachment 1351, Hershel “Woody” Williams.

**Following the ceremony, guests are encouraged walk over to the Gold Star Memorial Garden for the unveiling of the Gold Star Families Memorial Monument.**

**Guests are also invited to visit the Annie J. Bronson Veterans Memorial Walk in Stettinius Parade to view the bricks which are being dedicated during today’s ceremony. An information table is located at the arch. Those who purchased a commemorative brick before March 1 can pick up their brick from this information table. Those interested in purchasing a brick for future installation can also inquire at this location or in the Memorial’s gift store. The next scheduled dedication of bricks will take place on Veteran’s Day. The deadline for ordering is July 31.**

**Fallen Defenders - Past to Present**

Please take time to view this display on the west lawn of the Memorial. The exhibit is a powerful reminder of the losses from each war, from the American Revolution through today.

This display of “Fallen Soldier Battle Crosses” is intended to pay homage to the fallen of America’s current and past conflicts, some distant and almost forgotten, others closer in our hearts and memories. We honor the courage and tenacity of our nation’s 18th, 19th and 20th century soldiers and salute the volunteers of today. Please join with us this Memorial Day in remembering both the achievements and sacrifices of our Fallen Defenders. It is to all of them that we owe our liberty and our gratitude.

The helmet on rifle with bayonet thrust in the ground was used during battle to mark the spot of a fallen soldier or marine for later retrieval. It is a powerful symbol of respect and also of courage, sacrifice, and loss. Our current day military rarely has the need to mark the fallen in this fashion. Instead, memorial services are often held after the battle that combines the helmet, rifle, and boots of each fallen soldier as part of a visual tribute. This combination has come to be known as the “Fallen Soldier Battle Cross”.