

**A TRIBUTE TO OUR VETERANS  
2<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL PUBLIC MEMORIAL SERVICE  
SERENITY HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE  
1:00 PM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010**

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AS WE ENTER INTO THIS SEASON OF THANKSGIVING . . .

**THIS IS A TIME FOR US TO BE REMINDED OF THE MANY  
BLESSINGS THAT HAVE BEEN BESTOWED UPON US AS  
INDIVIDUALS AND AS A NATION.**

EVERY TIME I AM PRIVILEGED TO OFFICIATE A GRAVE-SIDE  
SERVICE FOR ONE OF OUR VETERANS AT WILLAMETTE  
NATIONAL CEMETERY . . .

AND THE MILITARY HONORS DETAIL SO CAREFULLY FOLDS  
OUR NATION'S FLAG AND PRESENTS IT TO THE NEXT OF  
KIN . . .

**I AM REMINDED THAT FREEDOM IS NOT FREE!  
IT IS COSTLY!**

IT IS OUR VETERANS STANDING SILENTLY AMONG US  
WHOSE SERVICE & SACRIFICE REMINDS US THAT  
THERE IS A PRICE TO BE PAID FOR FREEDOM:

SOME PAID THE PRICE FOR FREEDOM WHEN THEY:

SURVIVED THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR.  
LANDED ON THE BEACHES OF NORMANDY.  
FLEW COMBAT SORTIES OVER GERMANY.  
FOUGHT THE BATTLE OF THE CHOSIN RESERVOIR.  
WALKED IN THE BATAAN DEATH MARCH.  
FLEW COMBAT SORTIES OVER NORTH KOREA.  
FOUGHT IN THE DEFENSE OF SOUTH VIETNAM.  
PROTECTED OUR NATION DURING PEACE TIME.

OUR VETERANS REMIND US, EACH GENERATION MUST BE  
WILLING TO PAY THE PRICE OF FREEDOM.

SOME OF OUR MORE SENIOR VETERANS ARE A PART OF  
WHAT TOM BROKAW FIRST REFERRED TO AS THE  
"GREATEST GENERATION":

MEN & WOMEN WHO LIVED THROUGH THE HARDSHIP OF  
THE GREAT DEPRESSION . . .

ONLY TO FACE THE GREATEST CHALLENGE TO  
FREEDOM THE WORLD HAD EVER KNOWN IN THE  
PACIFIC AND IN EUROPE!

THEY SUCCEEDED [IN WAR & PEACE] BECAUSE THEY  
BELIEVED IN A CAUSE GREATER THAN THEMSELVES:

THEY WERE INSTILLED WITH THE VALUES OF DUTY,  
HONOR, COURAGE, SPIRITUAL STRENGTH, LOVE OF  
FAMILY, LOVE OF COUNTRY, AND PERSONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY.

THEY WEREN'T AFRAID OF HARD WORK.

THEY HAD COMPASSION FOR THOSE IN NEED.

THEY WERE COMMITTED TO DOING WHATEVER IT TOOK  
TO SEE THEIR MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

THEY WERE TOUGH-MINDED, TENDER-HEARTED  
INDIVIDUALS WHO DIDN'T BACK AWAY FROM THE  
CHALLENGES THEY FACED!

**THIS IS ALSO A TIME FOR US AS A NATION TO REMEMBER  
HOW WE GOT TO WHERE WE ARE!**

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S ADDRESS AT THE FIELD OF THE

BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG, PA, ON NOVEMBER 19, 1863,  
GAVE THE PRESENT AND SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS  
REASON TO REMEMBER:

“THE WORLD WILL LITTLE NOTE, NOR LONG  
REMEMBER WHAT WE SAY HERE, BUT IT CAN NEVER  
FORGET WHAT THEY DID HERE. IT IS FOR US THE  
LIVING, RATHER, TO BE DEDICATED HERE TO THE  
UNFINISHED WORK WHICH THEY WHO FOUGHT . . .  
HAVE THUS FAR SO NOBLY ADVANCED. IT IS RATHER  
FOR US TO BE HERE DEDICATED TO THE GREAT TASK  
REMAINING BEFORE US . . . ”

THAT GREAT TASK IS TO STAND TALL WITH OUR VETERANS  
AND TOGETHER MAINTAIN & PROTECT THE CAUSE OF  
FREEDOM!

THE WORK OF FREEDOM IS NEVER FINISHED!

VETERANS FROM EVERY GENERATION [IN EVERY CONFLICT]  
HAVE UNDERSTOOD THIS!

AND SO WE MUST NEVER FORGET THEIR SERVICE, NOR  
WHAT THEIR SERVICE ACCOMPLISHED, NOR WHAT  
THEIR SERVICE REQUIRED OF THEM, NOR WHAT THEIR  
SERVICE CONTINUES TO MEAN FOR US . . .

**THIS IS A TIME FOR US TO FACE OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS  
WE ASK OURSELVES THE QUESTION: HOW CAN I MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS?**

VETERANS UNDERSTAND THAT THROUGH SELF-LESS  
SERVICE THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IS UPHELD FOR  
ANOTHER GENERATION.

EVERY SERENITY STAFF MEMBER IS CHALLENGED TO ASK  
THEMSELVES THIS QUESTION AS THEY SET OUT EACH

DAY TO SERVE THEIR PATIENTS:  
“HOW CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF  
THOSE I SERVE?”

AT SERENITY WE ARE COMMITTED TO INCORPORATE THE  
VALUES OUR VETERANS CHERISHED INTO OUR WORK:

TO REFLECT [COURAGE, DUTY, HONOR, AND  
RESPONSIBILITY] TO THE VETERANS WE ARE  
PRIVILEGED TO SERVE AS WELL AS THEIR FAMILIES.

AND, INDEED, MAKE THOSE VALUES A PART OF THE  
SERVICE WE RENDER TO EVERY PATIENT.

**THANK YOU FOR THE AWESOME PRIVILEGE OF SERVING YOU  
AND YOUR LOVED ONE:**

RECOGNIZING WHERE YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONE HAVE  
WALKED AND SERVED CONSTANTLY CHALLENGES US TO  
BE BETTER CARE-GIVERS AS WE FACE THE NEXT  
GENERATION OF THOSE IN NEED OF END-OF-LIFE CARE.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU NOW AND ALWAYS!  
FOR YOU REMAIN IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS!**