

What Service to Our Country Means to Me

What service to our country means to me is clearly stated in this quote from Damien Hess, “Service.... is giving what you don’t have to give, giving what you don’t need to give, giving because you want to give.” How can we give as people that live in a community, a country, and a world? Community service, charity, politics, and military are the ways we give to show service.

Everyone has something to give. Community service is one way people can give. It starts with respect and can be as simple as baking cookies for your neighbor. Pushing snow for someone who is quite elderly or visiting a shut in can make all the difference in another’s day. Sometimes the smallest things can be counted as community service. For some, community service is no small thing. Sometimes it means paying the ultimate price like the firemen on 9/11. In my own community our local firemen put their lives on the line when the need arises. Community service is giving. Likewise charity is giving, from local service, to global organizations. Everyone has something to give and we can all make a difference!

When we think of politics, we think of presidential debates and politician’s sharp suits, but what we don’t think about is that most politicians are just trying to make the world a better place to be. President Bush and John Kerry each have ideas on how to make our country and the world a better place to be. They are giving their money, time, and energy in pursuit of their ideas. One thing that we can do now is to vote!

When we think of military, we think of duty, service, honor, and sacrifice. When men and women join the military, they commit to having to train for times of war. This sometimes means that they have to travel miles on end. How hard do you think that it would be to leave

your family to train let alone go off to battle? Defending our country means soldiers having to leave their family, friends, job, and comforts of home, and for some it means paying the ultimate price for freedom.

Veterans, you have gone through more than most of us can imagine! Thank you for your service! You have my deepest respect!