

## **What Service to Our Country Means to Me**

Service? What's that? Service isn't about giving your neighbors cookies. That's just being nice. Service is firstly about sacrifice, second staying strong in times of need, and last but not least appreciating your freedom. Do you even know how many people died on D-day? Can you even imagine how hard it would be to watch your friends die? We take our freedom for granted so much!

You wouldn't believe how many people died on D-Day. Some of them were only eighteen or nineteen years old! They knew what they were going into. They could have backed out. No! They choose to stay and fight. Most of them were aware that eighty percent of them were expected to die. But, they were willing to die for their country.

I can't even begin to think how hard it would be to stay strong while watching your friends die. All those poor men and women who watched their friends' bloody bodies wash silently up to shore. Can you even believe how painful it would be to see people floating in the water screaming for help and you can't stop to help them? If you saw your friend walking around without an arm or a leg, what would you do? Those men experienced that. They knew that they couldn't help them. So they had to watch them stagger to their deaths. They wanted to drop down and die, thinking why them? What did they do to deserve that? But they stayed strong.

I am so glad I have freedom to appreciate. Because of those great men and women, I have the freedom of religion and freedom of speech. I can go to school and get a good job to support the military. We have the right to vote and form a fair government. I'm going to serve my country by using my freedom to the best of my ability.

Those service men in the military sacrificed their lives. They stayed strong in times of need. Those men gave me my freedom, and I am truly thankful for all that they have done. So if you see one of the men who did all that, say thank you. They deserve it.