## What Veteran's Day Means to Me James Swartz

What would you call a person who offers safekeeping, support, and unconditional love? You might call the person a parent; or a veteran! We need to honor and support our veterans now because, like parents, they have supported us in every time of need.

In a way, veterans are like the "parents" of our country. For example, most parents would risk their lives for their children, and likewise our veterans were willing to sacrifice their lives for us. Our veterans, just like parents, were always thinking about our future and they always wanted the best for us. Our "parents" didn't want to fight; they still took care of us. A third similarity between parents and veterans is their sense of pride. Our veterans were so proud of our country and loved it so much that they treated it like it was their child. They wanted to represent it and be a role model for American citizens.

What parent doesn't want his or her child to be the best? Well, veterans want their country to be the best, too. We should be showing pride and love to our "parents" since they have shown it towards our country.

Finally, the veterans from the wars like World War I and World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War aren't getting any younger. Our parents aren't either. We all want to take care of our parents when they need it, so why shouldn't we do the same for our veterans? Many veterans faced disrespect when they came back from war. Our veterans need to be honored today, especially since many weren't when they needed it most: when they came home. Without our veterans, we would not have our freedom.

Since we honor our parents on Mother's Day and Father's Day, why not our veterans, on at least Veterans' Day? It's worth it to just take an extra couple of minutes this Veteran's Day to make our veterans feel the appreciation they deserve. However, we truly need to think of every day as Veteran's Day. They deserve it.