



Alpharetta Post 201

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www.legion201.org

Special Issue - - Friday, May 26, 2023

~ ~ In Flanders Fields ~ ~

By John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Source: The Poetry Foundation
www.poetryfoundation.org

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The National Poppy Day Story

The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice worn by Americans since World War I to honor those who served and died for our country in all wars. It reminds Americans of the sacrifices made by veterans while protecting our freedoms.

After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy.

The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D., a member of the Canadian Forces, while serving on the front lines.

On Sept. 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war.

In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion. Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, members of The American Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion brought National Poppy Day® to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

Wearing a red poppy honors the fallen and supports the living who have worn our nation's uniform.
Source: The American Legion

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Resource Links

Post 201 Walk of Memories - [Click here](#) for more information.

Survivor Assistance Checklist - [Click this link](#).

Benefits for Georgia Veterans - [Click this link](#).

Past Issues of Post 201 E-Newsletter - Visit www.legion201.org and click on the "Weekly eNewsletters" box at the top right of the landing page.

Post 201 Website - www.legion201.org.

VA Telephone Hotline - 1-877-222-8387

Veterans Crisis Line - 1-800-273-8255 Press 1

Post 201 Service Officer Hotline for Vets-at-Risk - 631-720-6022

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***"It's not the price you pay to be a member,
It's the price you paid to be eligible."***

Post 201 - Serving Vets for 75 Years
November 26, 1947 - November 26, 2022

