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Freedom Isn't Free

Ironic really, how Freedom starts with "free," but it isn't free in reality. Veterans and people presently serving in the armed forces relinquish much for our freedom; there is loss of time with family, loss of life in some cases, and loss of sanity due to the horrific scenes of war. As Veteran's Day nears, we should acknowledge all they do to make our lives safer.

Loss of time is big. Time is one of the most valuable commodities. Soldiers *could* stay home and bond with their families. Instead, they think of us and our country. They give their time to help protect us from the horrors of war. They miss important events such as babies being born and first steps, words and other milestones. Their families should be proud. We should be proud and appreciative too.

In some cases, defending freedom means lost lives. This is quite possibly the heaviest price of war. Families are never reunited; they are torn apart. Tears are shed for a long time. Life is a gift and will not be lost in vain. Soldiers who have fallen in combat have used their abilities to aid the citizens of our country. We should kneel and show them respect and pray for those they leave behind. They have given everything to protect our freedom-quite a hefty price.

Most surviving soldiers come back changed. Experiencing war can be a devastating experience. After seeing the horrific scenes of war and looking death in the eye, they come back a different person. Evil is exposed, and most are moved in a negative way. Traumatic memories and experiences can cause the loss of sanity. In a way, it's like losing the person you once knew. They can't simply jump back into life untouched.

Through the loss of time with loved ones, the price of bloodshed, death and near-fatal injuries, and the effect on one's mind, it is clear that veterans are courageous at a price. They do not care what happens, as long as everyone they care about is safe. Clearly, freedom isn't free.

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