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5 Thoughtful Ways to Honor Our Veterans

Veterans Day is the celebration of service, sacrifice and love of country by those willing to be part of something much bigger than themselves by serving in our armed forces. In addition to personally thanking a veteran in your life, here are some thoughtful ways to express your respect and gratitude to the people who have served our country.

1. **Raise the American flag.** Be the first on your street to put up your flag, and it could encourage others to do so as well. The flag is deeply respected among the military, and by taking a moment to unfold and fly your flag with respect on Veterans Day, will immediately signal your gratitude.
2. **Mail a Thank You.** Nearly three million people serve in the military, and millions more have served in the past. With numbers this large, you probably know a veteran. Take a moment to think and create a list of anyone you know who has served in the military (teachers, friends, cousins, neighbors, the guy working at the grocery store). Write a postcard for each of them, thanking them for their service.
3. **Utilize Facebook.** Change your profile picture and feature a veteran in your life. Include a caption about the many reasons you respect him or her.
4. **Pass It On.** Share the stories you know about your dad, grandfather, or other relatives who have served our country. Tell your kids or share with a friend. By keeping these stories alive, our gratitude for veterans is renewed, and the belief in our country's perseverance remains strong.
5. **Be a Good American.** Our veterans stood ready to fight for our freedom, and one of the most significant ways we can repay them is to strive to be worth that sacrifice. Learn about our country's history, obey our laws, and be of service to others.