

What is Memorial Day?

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2020 occurs on Monday, May 25.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

Thankfully I don't have any family who died serving our nation, but I do have those who survived. My grandma had three brothers, all of whom served in World War II. One of them was on the front line during World War II. One of his unit's missile guns broke, and if they didn't fix it, the whole unit would have died in battle. He and his "army friend" crawled up to the front of the gun, which was more dangerous, and fixed the gun. When they did that, they got bad burns and they both could have died. He was only 20 years old. They each won a Purple Heart for doing this. When they were both in the hospital my (great)Uncle had a positive mindset. His friend however, did not. Unfortunately, his friend died, but he survived. Hearing this story taught me that having a positive mindset is so important.