

As we gather today, we pray in a special way for all those who have passed away. First, we recall all the members of the Notre Dame community who have recently passed on. We pray that the Lord will welcome them into heaven, and that God will pour out His comfort and strength upon their families.

We also pray for all the men and women who died while serving their country. We ask God to welcome them into His Heavenly Kingdom, and to bestow on us a spirit of humble gratitude for their heroic sacrifice. We especially pray for the following Notre Dame alumni who perished in combat while serving their country:

Graduates Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice

- George Richard Fitzgerald, Class of 1961, from Bridgeport, a member of the US Marine Corps, who died in combat on September 17, 1966, while serving in Vietnam
- David William Coppernoll, Class of 1961, from Bridgeport, a member of the US Army, who died in combat at age 26 on January 8, 1970, while serving in Vietnam. He served as a Green Beret in the 5th Special Forces group and died two days before he was supposed to return to the United States.
- Thomas John Bowe, Class of 1965, from Stratford, a member of the US Army, who died in combat on March 8, 1969, while serving in Vietnam.
- Russell Thomas Fant, Class of 1966, from Bridgeport, a member of the US Army, who died in combat on February 3, 1969, while serving in Vietnam
- Jack Richard DaCosta, Class of 1966, from Bridgeport, a member of the US Army, who died in combat on December 2, 1969, while serving in Vietnam.
- Thomas Brown, Class of 2000, from Shelton, a member of the US Army, who died in combat on September 23, 2008, while serving in Iraq.

And we pray for all veterans alive today, and for all members of the armed forces who are currently serving as defenders of our country. We also pray for those veterans who did not die during combat, but who passed on after their service to their country was completed. May God bless and protect them as they have protected us, and may God also

abundantly bless their families. We pray especially for the following Notre Dame alumni who have served or are currently serving in the military:

- Joseph Bender, Class of 1960, who served in the Army in Vietnam.
- Jack French, Class of 1960, who served over 20 years in the military, including three tours in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot.
- William Roberti, Class of 1961, served in the US Army from 1966 to 2000 and retired as a Colonel.
- Robert Robinson, Class of 1961, US Navy from 1961 to 1967, and attained the rank of Hospital Corpsman, third class
- Ed Courtemanch, Class of 1961, served as a first lieutenant in the US Army Saigon Support Command in 1968 and 1969
- Robert Coffey, Class of 1961, served in the US Army during Vietnam and received the Army Commendation Medal for work performed.
- Frank Zak, Class of 1961, served for 25 years in the US Navy and retired as a captain
- Mary Kimmerlin, Class of 1961, who served in the US Air Force Medical Corp for six years.
- Mike Ceruzzi, Class of 1961, who served in the Navy from 1966 until 1976.
- William LaBaugh, Class of 1961, who served in the Medical Service Corp for 25 years before retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel.
- Also, additional Members of the Class of 1961: Jim Pinard – Air Force, Robert Robinson – US Navy, Art Lawrence – US Army, Ray Van Stone – Navy, Joseph Piazza – Army, John McCartney – Air Force, and George Sherwood – Army.
- James Carletti, Class of 1962, who served as a captain in the US Navy and the JAG Corps from 1967 until 1998.
- William Fitzgerald, Class of 1962, who served in both the Marines and the U.S. Air Force
- James Magyar, Class of 1962, who served in the US Army in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969. He was awarded the Bronze Star, which is the fourth highest individual military award, and the Air Medal.

- Kevin Conlisk, Class of 1962, US Navy from 1966 to 69
- Don Johnson, Class of 1962, US Navy from 1962 to 66
- Richard Grich, Class of 1962, who served in the US Navy and the Reserve Officers Candidate program from 1966 to 1970.
- Also, from the Class of 1962 - Joseph Maco, US Navy, Edward Agonis - Air Force, Charles Strba – Air Force, and Thomas Cherry – Navy.
- James Skarupa, Class of 1963, who served in the Navy from 1965 to 1971 and was based on battleships in the Mediterranean Sea as an Electrician's Mate Second Class.
- James Capinera, Class of 1963, who served in the US Army from 1967 until his retirement in 2005.
- Mario Bonetti, Class of 1963, who served in Vietnam from 1968 to 71.
- Robert Sisbarro, Class of 1963, who served in Vietnam and received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.
- Michael McCann, Class of 1963, a Green Beret and a recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for Valor.
- Robert Halky, Class of 1963, who served in the US Army from 1967 to 69
- Also from the Class of 1963: Michael McCann, William Stockell, Joe Alves, Donald Cunningham, Robert Wight – US Navy, Daniel McCarthy – National Guard, Thomas Keating – US Army, Donald Cunningham – Army, Cliff Haury – Army, Tom Koronkiewicz – Navy, John O'Connell – Army, Ron Janosko – Air Force, Ken Basque – Air Force, and Daniel Loch – Army.
- James Hart, Class of 1964, served as a medic in the Navy during Vietnam.
- Timothy Golden, Class of 1964, US Army and the recipient of two Purple Hearts for being wounded while serving and an Army Commendation Medal.
- Mark Conway, Class of 1964, served in the Army during the Korean War.
- Edward Burke, Class of 1964, served in the 9th Infantry Division of the US Army from 1968 to 1970 and saw active combat in Vietnam
- Peter Kodz, Class of 1964, US Air Force from 1966 to 1970.

- George Burr, Class of 1964, served on active duty in the US Navy from 1967 to 68, and in the US Navy Reserves until 1971.
- Robert Ledalytner, Class of 1964, a decorated combat veteran who passed away several years ago.
- Domenic J. Paniccia, Class of 1964, US Army from 1969 to 71.
- Donald Rogerson, Class of 1964, who served in the Army Reserves from 1967 until 1987 and retired as a First Sergeant.
- Joe Palsa, Class of 1964, who served in the Army from 1967 to 1970.
- Additional members of the Class of 1964: Peter Neverdowski, Thomas Flyntz, Joseph Dellamarggio, Jeff Crooks – Air Force, Donald McCartney – US Army, Jim Gannon - Air Force, Ed Bannon - Air Force, John Marusa - Navy, John Molnar - Army, Robert Bracci - Army, Thomas Tomlinson - Army, Bernard Cooney - Army, Edward Oleksy - Army National Guard, and Joe Dellamarggio - Air Force.
- Terrence Tiernan, Class of 1965, served in Vietnam in 1968 as a Navy Medic
- David Prentice, Class of 1965, served in the US Army from 1967 to 1989, including two tours in Vietnam, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel.
- Stephen Cavallo, Class of 1965, served in the US Army from 1966 to 68, having served in Vietnam.
- Harvey Auger, Class of 1965, was awarded a Silver Star for valor in combat
- Jim Walsh, Class of 1965, was a B52 bomber pilot in Vietnam
- Ron Beckech, Class of 1965, was a nuclear submarine commander in the US Navy
- Tim Reitano, Class of 1965, served in Vietnam.
- Henry Andraezak, Class of 1965, served in the Special Forces during Vietnam.
- Pat Freeman, Class of 1965, served in the Marines during Vietnam
- Anthony Cedrone, Class of 1965, served in the US Navy during Vietnam.
- Also from the Class of 1965: Paul Leska, a Navy Corpsman, Thomas Lopez – US Army, Anthony Cedrone – Navy, Kenneth Fodor – Coast Guard, and Tim Reitano.

- Bob Deveau, former ND physical education teacher and football coach from 1961 to 1966, who served in the Marines.
- Anthony Doyle, Class of 1966, who served in the US Navy from 1968 until 1972.
- James Bender, Class of 1966, who served in the Air Force with European NATO forces.
- Peter Plantne III, Class of 1966 – who served in Vietnam in the US Army and Michael D'Ostilio, also Class of '66, who served in the Army.
- Peter Putrimas, Class of 1967, US Army from 1970 until 73.
- Ron Allen, Class of 1967, who was a captain and pilot in the US Air Force from 1974 to 1980.
- Donald Rodgeron, Class of 1967, who retired as a First Sergeant in the military.
- Patrick Dizney, Class of 1967, US Army reserves from 1968 to 1975
- Additional members of the Class of 1967: Edward Jones, Tony Paluso and George Farrell, who served in the US Air Force.
- Keith Chatting, Class of 1968, who served in Navy in 1972 and on active reserve duty until 1978
- Jim Kessler, Class of 1968, US Navy.
- Thomas Fedele, Class of 1969, served in Vietnam in 1970 and 1971 as a member of the 11th and 19th Special Forces Unit and retired from the Army Reserves in 2001.
- Alvaro Suarez, Class of 1970, who served in Vietnam in 1972 and 1973. He enlisted in the Army Reserves in 1985, served on reserve and active duty for 34 years, including a tour of Iraq in 2003 and 2004 and is currently a Special Agent with the US Army Criminal Investigative Division.
- Marty Foncello, Class of 1970, served in the US Army on active duty from 1974 to 1979 and in the Army Reserve and Army National Guard from 1979 to 2002. Mr. Foncello retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.
- Dan Augustine, Class of 1970, served in the US Army for 25 years. He retired a colonel, but not before seeing service in 20 different countries. He is a veteran of the Panama invasion and Operation Desert Storm. He also served in the Pentagon on the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

- Also from the Class of 1970: Randy Chiarenzelli - Army National Guard, Robert Flynn - Coast Guard, Arthur Johnson – US Army and Richard Marusa – Army.
- From the Class of 1971: Charles Potter - US Air Force and Richard Fohrenbach who served in the US Navy from 1973 to 1978 as a hospital corpsman.
- Thomas Foncello, Class of 1971, who served in the US Air Force from 1972 to 1975 as a jet engine mechanic. Mr. Foncello also served in the Connecticut Air National Guard from 1979 to 1983.
- From the Class of 1972: Victor Becker – Navy, Vincent Capuano – Navy, Robert Iacurci – Army, and Pat McNiff – Army.
- William Martin, Class of 1973, is a 27 year veteran in the US Army. He was recently stationed in Afghanistan.
- Also from the Class of 1973 – John Soldi – served in the US Marines.
- Jeff Watcke, Class of 1974, served in the Air Force and the Connecticut Air National Guard from 1975 until 1986.
- From the Class of 1975: Thomas Campoli – Navy, Philip Ferraro – Air Force, David McCarthy – Marines.
- Thomas Medina, Class of 1975, a 25 year veteran of the US Air Force
- From the Class of 1976: Mary Latimer – US Air Force and Eddie Henderson – US Army.
- Michael Bourque, Class of 1977, served as a Navy Commander for 27 years.
- David Jennings, Class of 1978, served eight years in the US Navy, worked on the nuclear power program, and served on the USS Michigan, a nuclear powered submarine.
- Jean Kearns, Class of 1979, US Navy from 1992 to 2000
- Sue Roos, Class of 1981, served in the Army for four years.
- Robert Seltenrich, Class of 1981, served in the Army from 1988 to 1991 as a combat medic in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm and received the Combat Medical Badge.
- Michael Harrigan, Class of 1982, US Army.

- Jeffrey Heyse, Class of 1982, served 24 years in the Air Force, retiring as a major in 2007. He is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and served in Afghanistan.
- Dean Danas, Class of 1983, served 25 years in the Air Force and Fred Hill, Class of 1983 – US Marines.
- Rodney Garcia, Class of 1983, served in the Air Force National Guard from 1983 to 2003 and was deployed to Italy, Norway and Turkey.
- From the Class of 1984: Edward Muldoon – US Navy, Steve Moran - US Navy, Dan Marrash – Marines and Chris Weller – Marines.
- Greg Florence, Class of 1984, served in the US Navy from 1988 to 2009 and retired as a Commander.
- From the Class of 1985: Tony Rinaldi, US Air Force, Ed Devillers and Julia Smith – who both graduated from Notre Dame and went to the Naval Academy and then enlisted in the US Marine Corps.
- Lucendia Isler, Class of 1985, served in the US Air Force for ten years on active duty
- Robert William Corris, Class of 1985, served in the US Marine Corps from 1988 to 1994 and is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm.
- Peter Hristov, Class of 1985, US Navy.
- Julia Smith-Meade, Class of 1985, retired in July, 2014 as a Colonel in the US Marine Corps
- William Loughman, Class of 1986, served in the US Army and Army Reserves from 1987 to 1994
- Gary Krysta, Class of 1986, served in the Navy on board the USS San Diego during the First Gulf War.
- Sueann Schorr, Class of 1987, has served in the US Navy since 1991.
- Linda Cunha, Class of 1988, is currently in her 25th year of active duty with the Army National Guard. Having served in Iraq in 2004 and 2005, she also served in Afghanistan.
- Matthew Merced, Class of 1988, served five years active duty in the US Marine Corps from 1993 to 1998

- Christopher Sevick, Class of 1990, US Air Force
- Greg Howard, Class of 1998 – US Marines
- James Scianna, Class of 2000, has served in the US Navy for the past twelve years and is currently on board the USS Washington deployed around South America. He was recently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant commander.
- From the Class of 2001 - Paul Wargo and Jay Gaspar, Class of 2001, and Michael Jankovic, Class of 2002.
- We also remember four graduates from the Class of 2004 who have all served in the military or are presently serving: Jeremy Alward, Michael Scholz, Dan Richie and Fernando Moreno.
- Richard Carraro, Class of 2005, served in the US Army and was stationed in Africa as a leader for a drone security team.
- Courtney Patterson, Class of 2006, served as a senior airman in the US Air Force
- Jessica Tietjen, Class of 2008, US Air Force.