

## Great Service

All my wife needed was the right size rubber gasket. A faucet in our laundry room was leaking and needed a replacement gasket. She went to Lowe's Home Improvement and asked an attendant for assistance. Instead of pointing the way to an aisle half a store length away he took her there. As he examined the faucet he called over an employee from the plumbing department to make sure that Kathy had everything she needed for the repair. In spite of other customers trying to get his attention, he never left her until Kathy had everything she needed. If you were doing a cost-effective analysis you would immediately know that there were much bigger sales to be made. The cost of the repair was \$7 – probably one of the smallest sales the store had that day. You can't put a price tag on good service.



On Monday our nation celebrates Memorial Day. Many workplaces are closed and outdoor pools opened for the summer season. Grocery store shelves are emptied of picnic supplies because it is a big grilling weekend for family gatherings. Beaches and the mountains become destinations as people kick off their summer.

But that is not what Memorial Day is all about. Memorial Day is a national holiday to remember people who died in military service for the United States. Throughout the country, graves are decorated with flowers and the American flag, honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It is a time for patriotism, not honoring the country but honoring people who gave it all. In reality, “our day at the beach is the result of their day at the beach.” Freedom comes with a price. Just as Kathy received far more than the value of her \$7 purchase, Americans owe our freedoms to those who serve our country.

On Memorial Day we honor those who died to protect our freedoms. Just as the Lowe's Home Improvement attendant went above and beyond what was expected, our country's heroes also protect the freedom of people in other nations of the world.

And finally, as we remember those who gave their life for our freedom, we remember that Jesus Christ made the supreme sacrifice to give us freedom from sin and death. Our country is special because it goes beyond self to protect others. Jesus Christ gave of himself so that we could live. And that act of love is priceless.



**Question:** As you enjoy sleeping in, a day at the beach or on the lake, will you take time out to give credit to the sacrificial acts of our American service men and women, and the supreme sacrifice of our Lord and Savior?

**Scripture:** *Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15:13).*

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father. We are grateful for the men and women who put their life on the line to protect the freedoms of people in this world. We are also grateful for the sacrifice of your son, Jesus Christ, who gave up His life for ours. We pray that we will accept the opportunities won for us with our best efforts to serve our fellow man. Amen.