

11/NOV/2020

Veterans Day 2020

honoring all who have served...

What is Veterans Day?

Veterans Day was not always known as "Veterans Day." Originally, Veterans Day was celebrated as Armistice Day. The first Armistice Day was on November 11, 1919, and commemorated the end of World War I. President Woodrow Wilson regarded it as a day "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service." Nearly 20 years later, on May 13, 1938, Armistice Day was declared a holiday. The day was dedicated to world peace and continued to celebrate WWI. However, after WWII, federal legislation felt that all those who have served and sacrificed for the safety and freedom of the country should be honored on this day. As a result, on June 1, 1954, Congress declared that November 11 would celebrate all veterans, thus changing the name to "Veterans Day."

[*https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp*](https://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/vetdayhistory.asp)



Soldiers waiting for WWI to end on November 11, 1918, a full year before the first Armistice Day was finally declared a celebration.



President Eisenhower declaring November 11 Veterans Day, therefore celebrating all those who have served.

Fun Facts

In 1968, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday in October. However, it did not last long. In 1975, President Ford moved it back to November 11 to continuing to honor the importance of the end of World War I.

There are three states that have the highest percentage of veterans: Alaska, Virginia, and Wyoming.

Only 9 percent of veterans are women.

As of 2018, there are over 18 million living veterans.

As of 2020, over 300,000 of the 16 million Americans who served in WWII are still alive.

Australia, Canada, France, and Great Britain all hold remembrance days for the veterans of World War I and II.

[*https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/veterans-day-facts*](https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/veterans-day-facts)



Every year, Tulsa, Oklahoma celebrates its veterans with a parade. Here is a photo from last years celebration. This year, Tulsa will hold the parade for the 102nd time.

[*https://ktul.com/news/local/tulsa-veterans-day-parade-this-week-show-us-your-veterans-day-photos*](https://ktul.com/news/local/tulsa-veterans-day-parade-this-week-show-us-your-veterans-day-photos)

Famous Veterans

People often tend to overlook the fact that there has been a myriad of celebrities who have served their country. Let's take a look at a few of those stars who both served and entertained the USA.



Elvis joined the army in 1958 and was stationed in Germany. This is actually where he met his wife.



Humphrey Bogart served in WWI, meaning he was celebrated on the first-ever Armistice Day on November 11, 1918.



Remembered fondly for her role as Dorothy on *The Golden Girls*, Bea Arthur served in the US Marine Corps for 2 years.

[*https://www.biography.com/news/famous-united-states-veterans-celebrities*](https://www.biography.com/news/famous-united-states-veterans-celebrities)