

Flag Retirement Speech

Today VFW 1685 is drawn here together in the sight of God to pay our last respects to this symbol of our great nation, and to retire these flags

The US Flag Code reads; "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

Before we commence with our Flag retirement I would like to read these patriotic word about our Flag

"I am your Flag. I was born on June 14, 1777. I am more than just a piece of cloth shaped into a colorful design,

I am the silent sentinel of freedom for the greatest sovereign nation on earth.

I am the inspiration for which American patriots gave their lives and fortunes

I am the emblem of America.

I have led Our Troops into battle from Valley Forge to Afghanistan. I have been there though the Civil War, Two World wars, at Gettysburg, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and many other Missions

I walk in silence with each of our Honored Dead to their final resting place beneath the silent White Crosses

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I have flown through Peace and War. Through strife and Prosperity, and amidst it all, I have always been respected.

My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled in defense of this glorious nation.

My white stripes, Symbolize the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons in battle.

My blue field represents God's Heaven under which I fly

My stars, clustered together, unify the fifty states as one for God and Country.

I am "Old Glory" and I proudly wave on high.

Honor me, respect me, and defend me with your lives.

Never let our enemies tear me down from my lofty position

Keep alight the fires of patriotism,
Strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy,
and keep me always as a symbol of freedom, liberty, and
peace in our country.

When comes the time when I am old and faded, do not let me fly in disrepair, rather retire me from my duties only to replace me with a new flag so that I may continue to symbolize our country.

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At this time anyone who would like to stay and help us
retire these flags Please do so
Your Participation is Greatly Appreciated