

The Red, White and Blue



Memorial Day!
The American flag!
The Red, White and Blue!
A day of memory
Where love abounds
And we pass it around,
You give to me
And I give to you
Our memories, our stories of the past
And stories that are new.
Memorial Day!
We come together,
We laugh, we eat and play,
And perhaps - share a prayer or two.
I have a memorial flag
That only shows the white and blue.
Don't gasp or gag!
It isn't torn or mutilated,
In fact,
It's quite intact.
It isn't on a pole,
Or waving in the wind,
It's in my house,
On a very high shelf,
Precisely folded in a case
Beneath an Air Force hat,

For all to see and ask,
“What is that?”
Within the depths of me,
The flag symbolizes Love within and out.
There’s no doubt,
In my flag the red disappears
Beneath the sea of white and blue.
The red of valor and hardship down under and within,
Still endures
And still assures
We are united in our love for country too,
Bonded by the Red, White and Blue.
The flag reminds us of loved ones,
Of those who’ve gone before,
It reminds us of freedom,
And those who served their country well.
The flag has a long history to tell!
My husband served the Air Force,
And never left the ground!
His scientific training was used in a lab
In the School of Aerospace Medicine -
Where the military sent different types of cells
Into space and back --
All a part of a long-range plan
To blast a monkey, then a man --
Into space and back.
My neighbor served in the Army,
Assigned across the sea.
He once told me - in Germany.
The Army used his musical ability
To create some stability
And lift the spirits of his Army chums.
Soldiers tapped their feet
And danced to the beat
Sounding from those many drums!
Others have their own stories –
Not always about glories.

Sometimes they tell about sadness
Of war's badness -
How hard it is to fix -
They can recall the whole mix!
The flag is a reminder to work toward peace
So that war can finally cease!
On Memorial Day -
A big family dinner with food galore
Was a tradition we kept.
We remembered loved ones,
With flowers on a grave or two or three,
A remembrance for all to see.....
Sometimes we even wept!
We played softball
Til the end of day,
The short, the skinny, the tall –
We felt we had it all!
Later, we'd head to the house to eat.
We were hungry after some wins and defeat.
We'd all chow down,
Without one frown
As the food was so delicious to eat!
Desserts were the sweet finish
And never did diminish
Our reverence of the Red, White and Blue--
That symbol that unites me and you.
We were thankful for this May,
For another Memorial Day,
For memories of yesterday,
For Old Glory --
The Red, White and Blue!

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