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July 4th

Arlington Wreath Laying Essay

Pride

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier rings through people's mind like a gunshot through the air. Nobody knows their names. Nobody knows their rank. Nobody knows where they served. But they do know why they served. They fought for something much bigger than themselves, or their friends and family, they fought for the United States of America. They fought to give us the greatest gift, freedom. Freedom to practice religion, freedom to become educated, freedom to vote, freedom to travel and freedom to become anything we want. The tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a symbol for our country. It represents courage, strength and dignity. It shows how average people fought for their country. You don't have to be rich or some elite star to be a part of the United States military. You can be black, white, short, tall, rich, poor, fat, or skinny; it doesn't matter. But what does matter is having the bravery, discipline and understanding that the soldier's life is a gift of sacrifice to millions that will never know who they are. The soldiers in the tomb are a true example of all of that and how their sacrifices are brought together as one. It honors the unidentified men and women who died serving our beautiful country. For me to lay the wreath, opens a window of remembrance and respect of the times these men and women experienced: their families, their friends, and all of the important people they met along the way. To be in Arlington National Cemetery is an honor. It's more than a place where people get put to rest but a place where the brave are constantly remembered and where the whole nation can look to the unknown soldier and say "thank you". Everyone says when someone gets shot, they bleed red and that is not true for an American soldier. When an American soldier gets shot or wounded they bleed the country's colors: red, white and blue. The soldiers in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier might have died alone in the battle field but they will never be alone again.

I believe that I would be a good candidate to participate in the wreath laying ceremony because my two grandfathers served in the military and fought in the Korean and Vietnam wars. I think I have a rich history in what it takes to become a true American. I understand what a true hero is. And every man and every woman who lies in that tomb is a true hero to the United States of America.