



Memorial Day, initially referred to as Decoration Day, was observed by many communities after the Civil War, when the nation suffered more than 620,000 military deaths, roughly 2 percent of the total population at the time. John A. Logan, the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of Republic, chose May 30, 1868, as a day to decorate the graves of Union troops across the nation. From this beginning, ***Memorial Day is now designated as an annual day of remembrance to honor all those who have died in service to the United States during peace and war.*** Veterans Day, November 11, celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans.