November 2014

Giants Among Us...Past and Present

Roll Call! Every Friday on a large parade field in San Antonio, Texas, roughly 600 to 800 young men and women cross into the blue and become Airmen in our Air Force. As their family and friends celebrate around them, the new Airmen humbly join the less than one percent of Americans who have answered our nation's call. They step in and fill the void, taking hold of the fiery torch that has been passed on by generations of men and women who have shown us what it means to *Win the Fight, Strengthen the Team, and Shape the Future*.

As Airmen, each of us is linked to each other. Our history, distant and recent, is brimming with service men and women who sacrificed for the cause of freedom. They fought the fights before us, struggling through conditions at times rougher than our own. They held tight to their morals and modeled what it means to live according to core values. They pushed through the challenges of their time and came out victorious...as we always have; we will never falter.

Airmen remain Faithful to a Proud Heritage, a Tradition of Honor, and a Legacy of Valor.

We are all part of that lasting legacy paved by Airmen who conducted bombing, aeromedical, maintenance and other missions in the cities of Europe, the jungles of Vietnam and the deserts of Iraq and Afghanistan. The tradition of honor we celebrate was built by those who have served before us, and continues in our service today.

We must celebrate our veterans for more than a holiday. As you gather with your team, take the time to remember those who have built the legacy we carry forward. Tell their stories, display their pictures and celebrate their service. Then reflect on how you continue to write our Air Force story. This short video clearly shows you are carrying on the legacy in a unique and special way: <u>http://youtu.be/DAD67gS_Mn4</u>

For years our veterans have built higher platforms from which we look into the future. We see more clearly from those platforms because the possible is now visible. When our newest Airmen march across the parade field every Friday morning, they walk a path cleared of rubble by more than 45 million men and women who have served in uniform. We can never forget their service, or their sacrifice. They are truly giants among us, and we proudly stand on their shoulders and serve with purpose today.

The World's Greatest Air Force Powered by Airmen...Fueled by Innovation



Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.