"I believe our flag is more than just cloth and ink
It is a universally recognized symbol that stands for liberty, and freedom.
It is the history of our nation, and it's marked by the blood of
those who died defending it."
—John Thune
United States Senator from South Dakota (2005 - present)

Quotes of Merit

September
"We, the people, are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts, not to
everthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow men who pervert the Constitution."
--Abraham Lincoln, an American lawyer, politician, and statesman who served as the 16th President of
the United States from 1861 until his assassination in 1865.

October
"Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth."
—Attributed to Buddha.

November
"If we are strong, our strength will speak for itself. If we are weak, words will be of no
help."
—From the address President John F. Kennedy never delivered in Dallas, on November 22, 1963.

December
"America without her soldiers would be like God without his angels."
—Claudia Pemberton, a member of the Military Writers Society of America, the American Authors
Association; retired from the Cabell County Public School System, Huntington, West Virginia

January
"I want to make a New Year's prayer, not a resolution. I'm praying for courage."
—Susan Sontag, an American intellectual and writer best known for her essays on modern culture.

February
"The Constitution is the guide which I will never abandon."
—George Washington, an American military officer, statesman, and Founding Father who served as the
first President of the United States (1789 - 1797).
March
"There is no such thing as a little freedom. Either you are all free, or you are not free."
—Walter Cronkite, an American broadcast journalist who served as anchorman for the CBS Evening News for 19 years. His sign-off signature was "And that’s the way it is."

April
"Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."
—Adlai Stevenson II, an American politician and diplomat who was the United States Ambassador to the United Nations from 1961 until his death in 1965.

May
"Democracy is that which affords a rule of living as well as a test of faith."
—Jane Addams, America's first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931; won worldwide recognition as a pioneer social worker in American, as a feminist, and as an Internationalist.

"Our Constitution works; our great REPUBLIC is a government of laws and not of men.
Here, the people rule.”
—Gerald R. Ford
38th President of the United States

"No other symbol captures the power and glory of our nation like the American flag. It has flown as our national emblem in some form without interruption since 1777. The Stars and Stripes embodies the very qualities that make our nation great — liberty, justice, freedom, love of country, and national purpose.”
—Michael J. Cusick
New York State Legislator District 63, Staten Island, (2003 - 2023)

Madeline J. Barlow
ISDUP Parliamentarian