



## Veterans Committee National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

### Key Events in United States Military History

#### Annual Celebrations:

- Jun 14, 1775 – **Army Founding** - The United States Army was founded on 14 June 1775 when the Continental Congress authorized enlistment of riflemen to serve for one year.
- Aug 04, 1790 – **Coast Guard Founding** - The United States Coast Guard was founded on 4 August 1790 when President George Washington signed the Tariff Act that authorized the construction of ten vessels, referred to as “cutters,” to enforce federal tariff and trade laws and to prevent smuggling.
- Sep 18, 1947 – **Air Force Founding** - The United States Air Force was Initially part of the United States Army and authorized as a separate branch of the military on 18 September 1947 under the National Security Act of 1947.
- Oct 13, 1775 – **Navy Founding** – The United States Navy was established on 13 October 1775 by the Continental Congress through a resolution that reads: “That a swift sailing vessel, to carry ten carriage guns, and a proportionable number of swivels, with eighty men, be fitted, with all possible dispatch, for a cruise of three months....”
- Nov 10, 1775 – **Marine Corps Founding** - The United States Marine Corps was founded to serve aboard naval vessels and was responsible for the security of the ship and its crew by conducting offensive and defensive combat during boarding actions and defending the ship’s officers from mutiny.
- Dec 13, 1636 – **National Guard Founding (The Militia)** - The National Guard of the United States was founded as State Militias and is the oldest component of the Armed Forces. Today, it is a joint activity of the United States Department of Defense consisting of the Army and the Air National Guard.
- Dec 20, 2019 – **Space Force Founding** - The United States Space Force is the first new armed service since 1947 established 1 September 1982 with responsibility for space warfare operations.

## Significant Military Event Milestone Anniversaries

### 2024:

- 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day (6 June)
- 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall (9 November)

### 2025:

- 50<sup>th</sup> Year Commemoration of the end of the Vietnam War (15 May, 1975)
- 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States Army – (14 June 1775)
- 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States Navy – (Homecoming 25 – Navy & Marine Corps Anniversary - 10 November 1775)
- 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day - 8 May 1945).
- 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Japan Day (V-J Day - 15 August 1945).

### 2026:

- 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States of America.

## Significant Observances:

- Nov 11, 2023 - Veterans Day - The anniversary date of the signing of the armistice which ended the World War I. Now a day is set aside to honor military veterans for their service.
- Dec 16, 2023 - National Wreaths Across America - An annual laying of wreaths at Veteran Cemeteries across the nation.
- Aug 07, 2024 - Purple Heart Day - National Purple Heart Day honors Service Members who have been wounded or killed in military service.
- Sep 11, 2024 - National Day of Service and Remembrance – Also known as Patriot Day, this is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001.
- Sep 20, 2024 - POW/MIA Recognition Day - A time set aside to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), and their families.
- Sep 29, 2024 - Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day - A day set aside to honor the families of our nation's fallen service members.