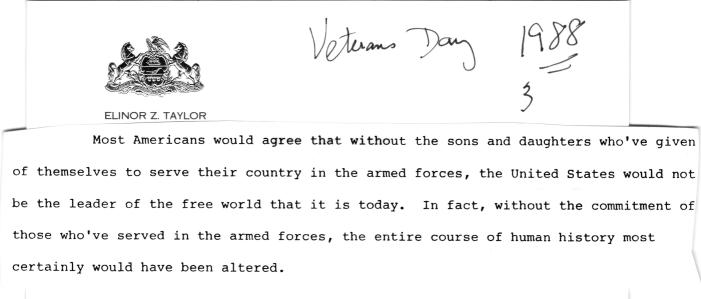
## Veterans Day 1988



ELINOR Z. TAYLOR Seventy years ago today, a significant event occurred in world history. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, all became quiet on the Western Front. This time it was for good. The guns would remain silent. In a railroad car in France, an armistice was signed and the First World War came to an end after more than four years of fighting.

For many years. Armistice Day remained simply a day to honor the veterans of World War I. But in 1954, after millions of Americans had served in two more wars, the concept changed. In that year Congress passed Public Law 380 and redesignated November 11th as Veterans Day, a time to remember American veterans of all wars. In my family - my Father served in Warld War I + Korea my hurband in Warle War II + Korea So, as we gather here today, we continue a tradition that has been with us for many years. And, it is certainly proper that we do so. For the veterans of this nation remain a vital part of our heritage. You and I stand here today in freedom, and can celebrate this very event, because of the many sacrifices our veterans have made throughout our history.



Veterans Day 1988 approaches, is would be appropriate for every Pennsylvanian to pause and consider the sacrifices made by those who bravely answered the call. There is a lesson in each Veterans Day celebration that every American must hear. The lesson is one of being more like those who gave of themselves for America. If we join our comrades in the armed forces and give of ourselves for our country--through a variety of channels--then we can be in a better position to preserve America's heritage of heart, spirit and dedication. These are the very qualities that gave our veterans such a deep sense of national pride, both in years past and in the 1980s.

I recall an excerpt from the famous poem about Flanders Fields. It reads, "Take up our quarrel with the foe; to you from fallen hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high..."

That call, one from fallen veterans, is being answered today by proud and dedicated American servicemen around the world. Those of us not in the military, however, can join in carrying that torch of freedom. We can contribute more to our neighborhoods, our communities and our society. We can recognize our special gifts and then give of ourselves for the benefit and betterment of our nation. With Veterans Day 1988, let us promise never to break faith with those who've shown the way, and let us search and find in ourselves the heart, spirit and dedication that has helped so many give so much for our beloved country.

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