

# Bob Ervin Veterans Memorial Day Ceremony

## May 30, 2022

1. Welcome Remarks & Posting of Colors

2. Opening Prayer

3. **Moment of Silence**

4. Ronald Reagan, Memorial Day Speech, 1982

5. Re-dedication of Robert Ervin Veterans Memorial  
& Presentation of Flowers to Earlene Ervin:

Robert “Bob” Ervin was a US Navy Corpsman, a Veteran of Iwo Jima,  
a member of the Band of Brothers, a Loving Husband, Father,  
and a proud member of the Prineville community

6. Guest Speaker:

Crook County Sheriff and US Army Veteran **John Gautney**.  
John was a Sergeant and served 6 years in the Army, from 1973 to 1979.

7. Reading of “13 Folds of the American Flag”:

[Prineville Flag Folding team un-folds flag, and prepares  
to re-fold it after significance of each fold is read.]

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### THE 13 FOLDS OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

Have you ever noticed how the Honor Guard pays meticulous  
attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times?  
Here is what each of those folds means:

The **FIRST** fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

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The **SECOND** fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

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The **THIRD** fold is made in honor and remembrance of the Veterans  
departing our ranks, who gave a portion of their lives for the defense  
of our country and to attain peace throughout the world.

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The **FOURTH** fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in “God”, it is to Him we turn in times of peace, as well as times of war for His divine guidance.

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The **FIFTH** fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, “Our Country”, in dealing with other countries, “may She always be right; but it is still our Country, right or wrong”.

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The **SIXTH** fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that We ‘pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, One Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all’.

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The **SEVENTH** fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our Country and our flag against all Her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our Republic.

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The **EIGHTH** fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

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The **NINTH** fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, their loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great and has been molded.

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The **TENTH** fold is a tribute to the Father, for he too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

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The **ELEVENTH** fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews’ eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

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The **TWELFTH** fold represents the emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christian’s eyes, God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

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The **THIRTEENTH** fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are the uppermost, reminding us of our Nation’s motto; “In God We Trust”.

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After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, reminding us of the Soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

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[Flag folding team departs...]

**8. Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, 1863**

**9. Closing Prayer**

**10. RIFLE Salute, TAPS, and Amazing Grace**