



Memorial Day and Peace

A Memorial Day Reflection by Katy Black

What does Memorial Day have to do with IPMOC? Well, for one, many of the freedoms we enjoy in this country were purchased with the lives of countless service members and Americans—from the American Revolution, into the Civil War, and through several major conflicts and wars in the past century. Our ability to see that there are universal, undeniable truths that are bestowed on the human race often have been enabled by the sacrifices our friends, family and neighbors have born through the centuries.

This is not to condone war, but to acknowledge it's presence in shaping our past and present, and more importantly to understand it does not have to shape our future. I have had many conversations with people that think the only way to solve conflicts is by armed aggression and have disagreed. From this soldier's perspective, we are far too quick to enter into armed conflict and send good people into harm's way — in retrospect for what often seem capricious, shallow and sometimes malevolent reasons.

I believe there is a noble spirit within all people that strive towards the best of the human race — dignity, respect, and peace / fulfillment for ourselves and the generations to come. By making life supporting, truly long-range sustainable decisions now, I feel we can bring that noble intent to the forefront more and more. And together we can move to a more peaceful, just existence on our tiny island called Earth.

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