

# Roll Call

Airmen: Winning the Fight. Strengthening the Team. Shaping the Future.

June 2014

## Why We Serve

Roll Call! We've all done it, some more than once. We've raised our right hand and repeated the oath to solemnly swear to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. It is a humbling oath, a thoughtful and serious promise to take on the sobering duty to protect our freedoms.

The motivation behind our first oath is often different. Many initially raise their right hand for the opportunities that come with service in our military - great young men and women looking to further their education goals, for direction and purpose in life, or financial stability. For others it could be family tradition or the thrill of a new challenge. The reasons vary greatly, and none are wrong.

There is no bad reason to join our Air Force.

For each of us, at some point in our service, that reason must evolve. We must grow to understand that service is about more than direction, pay or education. It is about protecting American ideals, embracing the responsibility that comes with freedom, and strengthening our country through an unbreakable bond with the comrades who serve by our side. We share a commitment to do and be more, a commitment that only those who have served can fully understand and appreciate.

When proud veterans recall their service – however short, or long ago it may have been – they never recall the tangible benefits. They cherish the intangible benefits – pride, service, duty and honor – and stand taller knowing they did their part to serve their country.

It is a privilege to be an Airman, and an honor to defend our nation. We can never forget that.

As you gather with your team this month, talk about why you serve. What drives you to put on our uniform? What pushes you to serve your country? What motivates you to ***win the fight, strengthen the team, and shape the future?*** This month we will begin to tell thousands of great Americans they no longer have that option. Think about those Airmen, men and women who would like nothing more than to continue to serve, and remember the privilege we should all hold dear.

Our Air Force is the most powerful airpower in the world; for more than 60 years we've enjoyed an air superiority no other can match. It is a truth that should compel pride, a pride that must drive each of us to be ***faithful to a proud heritage, a tradition of honor, and a legacy of valor.*** We have a lot of Airmen in our Air Force...we need a lot of Air Force in our Airmen. When you raise your right hand, remember what it stands for; remember the men and women who have taken the solemn oath before you; and remember that service is a calling with intangible rewards: pride, service, and duty...these will always be priceless.



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*Powered by Airmen...Fueled by Innovation*

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.