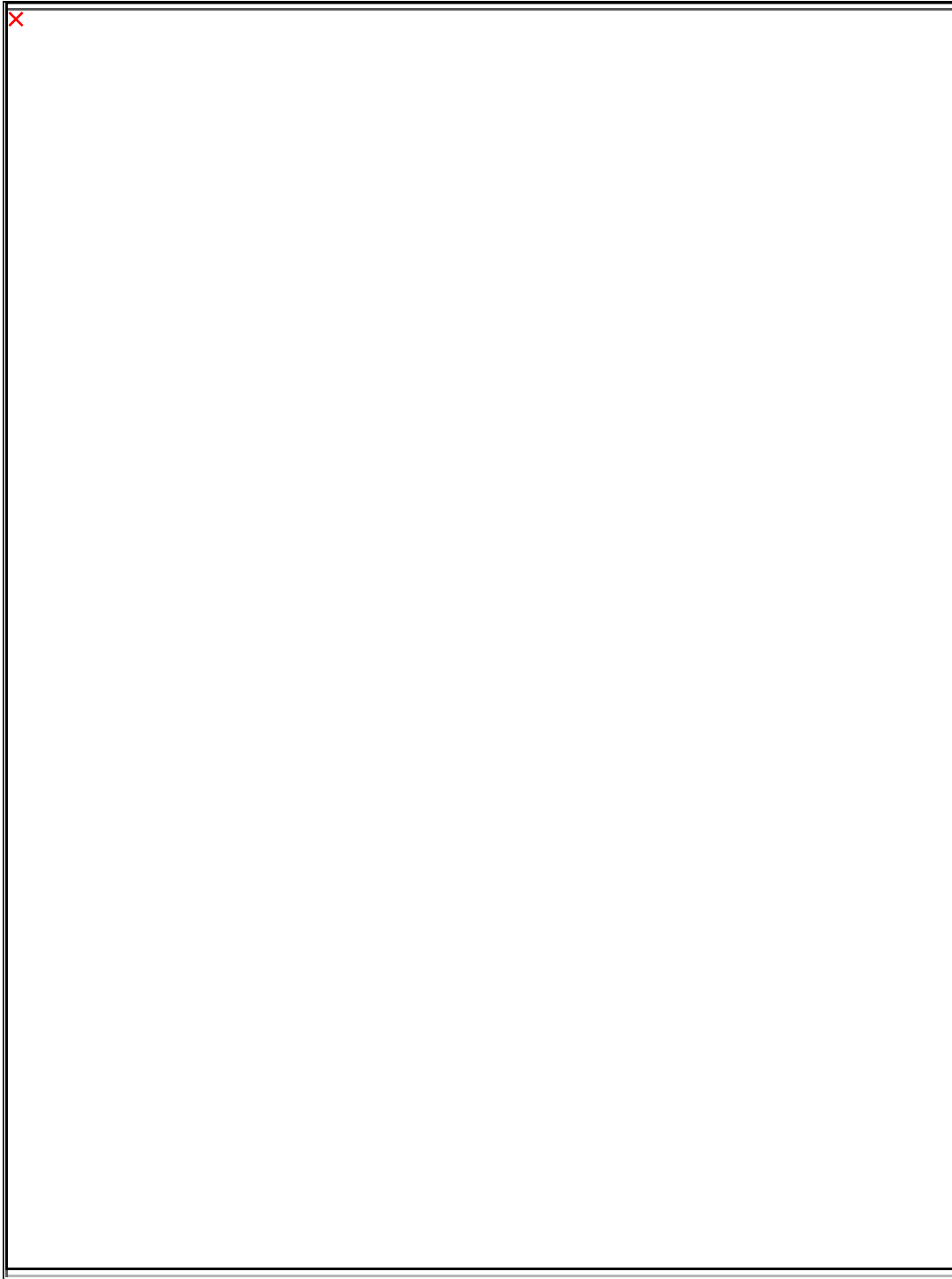


# Gold Star Mothers Day is Sept. 28

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## What is it?

### Gold Star Mothers

are women who have been changed forever, through the ultimate sacrifice of their sons and daughters who sacrificed their lives in the service of the nation. These mothers are an inspiration to all Americans. They exemplify courage, grace and fortitude in the face of incalculable sorrow.

Enacted June 23, 1936, the 74th United States Congress designated "Gold Star Mother's Day" as a national commemoration

for the American people to pause and honor the continued service of the Gold Star Mothers.

During World War I, Americans displayed flags in homes, businesses, schools and churches bearing a blue star for each military service member. Families stitched a gold star over the blue one to honor those members who died in military service.

### **What has the Army done?**

The Army joins all Americans annually in support of Gold Star Mother's Day on the last Sunday in September. Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier all hold memorial events. Army leaders encourage department personnel and their families to take time on this day to remember the service members who have given their lives in the service of the country and recognize the sacrifices of the loved ones, who have been left behind.

### **What continued efforts does the Army have planned for the future?**

The Army is dedicated to providing long-term support throughout the grief process of these Gold Star survivors. Army Survivor Outreach Services delivers coordinated, comprehensive, and standardized programs across the force to meet survivors' needs. These dedicated resources represent the Army's commitment to first-class service for as long as the family desires.

### **Why is this important to the Army?**

Groups like the Gold Star support the surviving military families by echoing the critical message that their sacrifices will not be forgotten. The Army, on behalf of a grateful nation, salutes America's Gold Star Mothers. They are, and always will be, members of the great Army family. The Army, along with the nation, recognizes their courage and is committed to support them while honoring the legacy of the fallen - the Soldiers, their children.

### **Resources:**

- [Gold Star Mothers](#)
- [www.GoldStarPins.org](http://www.GoldStarPins.org)
- [U.S. Army Gold Star Mothers](#)
- [U.S. Army Human Resources Command](#)
- [U.S. Army Survivor Outreach Service](#)
- Related STAND-TO!: