



**From:** David Mitchell  
**To:** City of Columbiana  
**Date:** November 10, 2020  
**Subject:** Veterans Day 2020 Message

The eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month began the armistice that marked the end of World War I (WWI). Armistice Day has now become Veterans Day to recognize all those who served in our armed forces past and present.

Tomorrow we will celebrate Veterans Day. A day that has special meaning to me and, hopefully, you, too.

My grandfather was only 17 years old when he was wounded at the Battle of the Argonne Forest in France in WWI. He spent the rest of his life in a wheel chair due to his wounds.

My father, also a disabled Veteran, and his brothers, were part of the Greatest Generation serving in World War II.

My Uncle and namesake, Staff Sergeant David Fletcher Mitchell, was killed at the Battle of the Bulge and forever rests, along with 8,000 other American heroes, in the Henri Chappelle American Cemetery in Belgium.

I, too, am proud to have served.

What gives me even more pride is living in the greatest nation on earth where the service and sacrifice of my family is not the exception but, rather, the rule. We are blessed to have so many men and women willing to sacrifice so much in return for so little.

To all our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and members of the newly created Space Force; on behalf of the City of Columbiana and a grateful nation – I salute you.

Happy Veterans Day!

