



# SYMBOLS OF HONOR

When you see someone wearing these pins, know that he or she has lost a loved one who selflessly served our nation.



## Gold Star Lapel Pin

It is designated for eligible Survivors of service members who lost their lives during any armed hostilities in which the United States is engaged, dating back to World War I. This includes service members who lost their lives while deployed in support of military operations against the enemy or during an international terrorist attack.



## Next of Kin Lapel Pin

It is designated for eligible Survivors of service members who lost their lives while serving under circumstances not defined by the Gold Star Lapel Pin. This includes service members who lost their lives while assigned to a Reserve or National Guard unit in a drill status. It is authorized for issue retroactive to March 29, 1973.



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## SERVICE FLAGS

These two flags are some of the many ways to honor our service members and the sacrifices of so many.



### The Blue Star Service Flag

Represents hope and pride. This flag is generally displayed at the residence of a service member's family. The number of stars represents the number of service members on active duty in that family.



### The Gold Star Service Flag

Represents sacrifice for the cause of liberty and freedom. If an individual is killed or dies while serving, the star representing that individual will have a gold star placed over the blue so that the blue forms a border.



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