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# E-NEWS ALERT

## Memorial Day message from General President William P. Hite

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we head into the Memorial Day weekend, I want to extend, on behalf of all of us at the General Office, our most profound appreciation to the brave servicemen and women, as well as their families, who have honored their country with extraordinary service, devotion and sacrifice. Although the Americans to whom we pay tribute have rendered a service which cannot be repaid, we set out on Memorial Day to remember them. We are reminded that America remains the land of the free because of their service and that one of the best ways we can honor those who have fallen is to take care of those who return home.

As you know, the obligation to care for returning veterans is one we have taken to heart at the United Association. In 2008, we launched the UA Veterans in Piping (VIP) program, which provides men and women exiting the armed forces with transitional assistance and accelerated training in preparation for promising careers in our industry. This program, which began at Fort Lewis in Washington State, has since been expanded to Camp Pendleton in California, and to Fort McCoy and Camp Douglas in Wisconsin. We ultimately hope to offer this program all across the country and reach as many veterans as possible. As these young heroes return, it is our turn to serve them. It's the least we can do for those who have already given so much.

So as we honor the service of America's fallen soldiers this Memorial Day, especially those from our own families, as well as today's proud armed forces and veterans, let us recommit ourselves to also finding ways this weekend and throughout the year of showing our gratitude to America's veterans, without whom we would not have the great freedom we cherish. They are American

treasures -- and we couldn't be more proud to have so many in the United Association.

With warm wishes for a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend,

Bill Hite  
General President

