

## 2022 Patriot Pen Essay

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Title - All That You Can Do.

Taking the time to appreciate and recognize all that veterans have done for us is an extremely important practice. Veterans have sacrificed their health, both mentally and physically, and have even sacrificed their very life for what we are able to have. In order to honor all the things that these brave souls have done for us, it is important to be a good citizen.

Being a good citizen means to show respect to our country and to its people. Respect is one of the most important traits of being a good citizen. Another trait of a good citizen is simply helping others any chance that they get. Doing things like helping find a lost dog, buying someone's meal, or even lending out a pencil are all things that can make you a good citizen. Another way of showing citizenship is volunteering. In the same category as helping others, volunteering is an amazing way to show citizenship. If you want to directly support veterans you could volunteer at a LVAP, aka a; Local Veterans Assistance Program. Another place you could volunteer at is an animal shelter, or a litter cleaning group to help keep your community clean and healthy.

Being lawful is another way to honor our veterans. Being lawful brings me back to my point about respect. It shows that you respect the laws of this country and that you have morals set for yourself that you follow. One last way to honor veterans is to live up to a person's full potential. Each and everyone one of us is capable of doing great things in life, but only if we try. It is important to push yourself past your comfort zone, and do your best even when it feels like all odds are against you. Never give up. Stay committed to your goals and become the best you

that you can be. These were just some of the many wonderful ways that you can show your respect to our veterans' hard work and struggles by using citizenship. Make our veterans proud.