

Written In Stone

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Two hundred and thirty three years since our country's first Independence, and we're still fighting to maintain the principles on which this country was founded. John Adams told his wife, Abigail, "*I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure it will cost us to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet through all the gloom I see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is worth all the means.*"

Just reading the words '*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness*' sends 'goose bumps' down my arms, or 'God-bumps' as a pastors' wife once called them.

Browsing through our local cemeteries, looking for patriots and veterans of all our wars, gives me the opportunity to recognize and honor our fallen heroes, servicemen and women who have given their lives for the principles upon which we stand today. Whether you visit a church, community or family graveyard, you can find many a military marker signifying the service that person gave to his country.

Men and later, our women, born in the Carolinas, Virginias, or even in Scotland, Ireland, Prussia, came to the United States of America, migrated to the Southern states to start a new life, fought valiantly for that way of life, perhaps gave their life in exchange to make it a better one for their children, grandchildren and those who continue to come after. Some have headstones, many do not. If you know of an ancestor without a military marker, and wish to provide one, give me a call and I'll be happy to assist you in this process. Take the necessary steps today to ensure that future generations will also know of the service of their ancestors, while you're still living to tell them the stories.