

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Remembering Together

The Johnson family had always been a close-knit military family. Colonel Mark Johnson, a dedicated soldier, was their pillar of strength. He was a loving husband to Emily and a hero to their two children, Lily and Ethan.

One fateful day, news arrived that shattered their world. Colonel Johnson had been deployed to a faraway land, and the family received the heartbreaking news that he wouldn't be returning. He had made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

The days that followed were filled with grief, tears, and a profound sense of loss. Emily, Lily, and Ethan struggled to come to terms with their new reality. But as Memorial Day approached, they decided to participate in the Decoration of Graves, an annual tradition where families adorned the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and flags.

On Memorial Day morning, the Johnsons arrived at the military cemetery. Rows upon rows of white gravestones stretched out before them, each representing a hero who had given their life in service to the nation. Emily, Lily, and Ethan began placing roses and small American flags on Colonel Johnson's grave.

As they decorated his grave, they noticed other families doing the same, sharing stories and memories of their loved ones. The atmosphere was a mix of sadness and camaraderie, a reminder that they were not alone in their grief.

During a ceremony held at the cemetery, they listened to speeches honoring the fallen soldiers. Emily felt a renewed sense of pride in her husband's sacrifice. Lily and Ethan, though young, understood the significance of the day and the importance of honoring their father's memory.

In the years that followed, the Johnsons continued to participate in the Decoration of Graves. It became a tradition that allowed them to remember, grieve, and find solace together. They found comfort in the community of families who shared their pain and their pride.

While they would always miss Colonel Mark Johnson, they knew that by participating in this annual tradition, they were keeping his memory alive. And in that, they found a way to heal and remember, as a family, the hero who had given everything for their country.