

Name _____

Remembering Together

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The Decoration of Graves event evolved from being a symbol of grief to a source of solace for the Johnson family as they found comfort in remembering together, surrounded by a supportive community. Over time, the event became a way for them to honor Colonel Mark Johnson's memory and find healing through shared experiences with others who had also lost loved ones in military service.
2. Traditions like Decoration of Graves are essential in helping families remember and honor their loved ones who have served in the military. These traditions provide a meaningful way for families to connect, grieve, and pay tribute, ensuring that the sacrifices of those who served are never forgotten.
3. The Johnson family's experience represents the spirit of Memorial Day by showcasing the importance of remembering and honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Their story illustrates that Memorial Day is not just about grief but also about finding solace and pride in the memory of loved ones. We can learn from their story that the holiday's significance lies in coming together as a community to remember and honor heroes.
4. The community of families at the Decoration of Graves event played a role in helping the Johnsons heal and remember their loved one by providing a supportive environment where they could share stories, memories, and their grief. This community allowed the Johnsons to feel less alone in their pain and more connected to others who understood their loss, fostering a sense of belonging and shared purpose in honoring their heroes.

