“‘The Battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, active, the brave…’

"-Patrick Henry." As they say, the person who lived it always says it best. Patrick and many other military members have shared quotes and stories of their patriotism and bravery to serve our country, and I feel complete amazement and thankfulness for people like him and others who have served.

Some military workers spend their hard-working days in camps and shelters, and some now are in their homes and living the life of retirement from the military. They all have something in common that they taught me though: They all have valor, attentiveness and patriotism.

Valor: the act of being brave; especially in the time of battle. What better way to describe a soldier enduring the harsh conditions and warfare. They hold strong everyday, and are brave enough to go out into battle, just to protect our mother country, America. Take these traits from the standpoint of a military worker, serving in World War II. They must have been scared of facing the axis powers, who were feared by many. Our military service was able to conquer their fear, and were brave enough to tuck away and lock up their fear and fight till their heart screamed of victory. This shows that military soldiers all have valor.

Attentiveness: the act of paying attention to your surroundings. A military soldier must listen, on and off the battlefield. They must listen to their generals barking orders to them, but also listen to their crew and help them out in times of need. They must stay vigilant and make sure they don’t get shot 24/7. Take this trait, and impose it on one of the greatest veterans I know, my great-grandpa. He served in the navy, and he tells me stories of what it was like working on that big ship. Having to listen to orders from the
commanders and stay vigilant while maintaining the ship to make sure everything was running smoothly. This takes much skill and tolerance to deal with day by day, as the fear of food shortage and a sinking ship crept into the nightmares of many navy men. They, for their lives and the lives of many more, used attentiveness and its corresponding traits to save civilians. This shows that the military soldiers all have attentiveness.

Patriotism: the act of loving and supporting one's country, and showing pride in it. Take this trait, and take on the viewpoint of a military man serving in the war of 1812. The military who served in the war showed so much love and determination for their country, that Francis Scott Key decided to write our National Anthem as he woke up on that fine morning, seeing his country’s flag still swinging in the air. It was such a true symbol of love and supportiveness, and it still is today. Think about America itself, and the minutemen and military leaders who fought in the American Revolution. The whole reason they fought and held together even when they were losing was because of patriotism and their devotion to America. They fought so hard that we won the war, and have a great country to protect. The soldiers of today descended from those great soldiers, and they have the same devotion for the country as their ancestors did, giving themselves up to protect their nation. This shows that the military soldiers all have patriotism.

Valor, attentiveness and patriotism describe all those veterans and soldiers of America, who in my eyes are the hero’s with the American flag as their cape. That's what makes our country great. It’s believed that anyone and everyone can be a hero, and the people who serve today really show the outcome and influence of the message.
If it wasn’t for the soldiers of today and the past veterans, like my great-grandpa, fighting for our freedom and safety, America would have gone to ruins. America actually would have never been created if it weren’t for our soldiers from the past and today. They have done so much for the country that I can't even express my gratitude for them.