



MILITARY FAMILY APPRECIATION MONTH 2005

This November we honor the extraordinary contributions of our Nation's military families as part of National Military Family Appreciation Month.

Throughout our history, the steadfast support of military families has always been a source of inspiration. You have faced the special challenges of long deployments, family separations and frequent relocations with great courage and resolve. In doing so, your selfless dedication has directly contributed to the mission readiness of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Merchant Marines.

My heartfelt thanks to the families who sacrifice so much—you are patriots in a quiet, strong way and you make all the difference. You support us, even though we work long hours that often interrupt your plans. When we are away, you hold our families together. When we get tired, you remind us how important our jobs are. When we receive recognition, you stand in the background. You define us and sustain us. You promise us the tomorrows for which we strive.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff join me in thanking all military families for their faithful service to their communities, their loved ones and this Nation.

PETER PACE
General, United States Marine Corps
Chairman
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff