

Poppy Presentations at Committal Service

The Meaning of the Poppy

The red poppy stands as a symbol of remembrance for those who served and sacrificed. It speaks of fields where courage bloomed, of blood freely given, and of peace purchased at great cost. Though small, the poppy carries profound meaning. It reminds us that freedom is never free. Each poppy is a promise—that we will remember.

As each poppy is laid, it stands as a tribute: this veteran's service mattered, their sacrifice is remembered, and their legacy endures.

(The poppy may be placed at the memorial table, urn, or casket, or laid beside the flag.)

Please line up, take a poppy and lay it on the casket/urn

To be read while poppies are being placed

In Flanders Fields by John McCrea

In Flanders Fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place. While in the Sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Unheard, amid the guns below.
We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawns, saw sunsets glow;
Loved and were loved – but now we lie
In Flanders Field

Take up our quarrel with the foe!
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch, Be yours to bear it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep tho' poppies blow
In Flanders Field.