



UNITED STATES SENATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

JON TESTER

MONTANA

This is Senator Jon Tester.

I'd like to start by thanking some of the individuals responsible for making this event happen. Mayor Dan Reddish, County Clerk Rachel Parret, local businessowner Cathy Smith, and Council Members John Laigaie, Lorraine Dell-Bishop and Scott Lyons. I'm glad to see your hard work rightfully recognized by VA Secretary Denis McDonough who specially designated Philipsburg as a regional 2023 Veterans Day Commemoration site.

On Veterans Day, we come together as a nation to celebrate those who have served and honor the sacrifices they've made on behalf of our country.

Montanans have a long and proud history of serving our nation. From the Greatest Generation to the veterans of Korea and Vietnam, to our Post-9/11 generation of veterans.

No matter the decade, these men and women put their lives on the line to defend our freedom and protect our democracy.

And they make our country the greatest in the world.

That's why honoring our veterans is more than just saying "thank you for your service."

It's about ensuring these heroes get the care, benefits, and respect they deserve when they come home changed by their service.

It's also about ensuring they can secure good-paying jobs, a roof over their heads, and a safety net for their families.

The truth is, America is great at turning civilians into soldiers, but we've got to do better at turning those soldiers back into civilians.

I'm proud to wage this fight on behalf of Montana veterans and their families as Chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

So to our veterans who served, thank you. Know that I'll keep fighting as hard as I know how to deliver for you in the United States Senate, 365 days of the year.

Thank you for keeping us free, and God bless.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jon Tester".

Senator Jon Tester