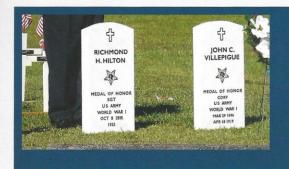
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Veterans Day is not just a day off from work or school, but it is also a day to show our respect for those who have served our country. Men and women in the military devote their time and lives to serving and protecting Americans, and Veterans Day is a day to show our appreciation and to say thank you for all the sacrifices they make for us. They give up time from their families, go far away from home, and risk losing their lives just to keep America free and safe. They sacrifice their sleep so Americans can sleep soundly in their beds. Camden Military Academy showed our gratitude on this day by joining with other JROTC schools in a parade to show our respect.

On Veterans Day, Camden Military Academy's honor company, Charlie Company, had the privilege to represent the school by participating in a parade to honor veterans of Kershaw County, the state of South Carolina, and the United States of America. Our cadets arrived around 10:00am to form up next to other schools in Kershaw County and to listen to heart warming speeches from families of veterans. We heard stories of heroism from veterans of World War II to those who fought in Afghanistan. We also listened to emotional poems describing how soldiers feel during war time, how they feel when they return, and how their families feel when a loved one is off at war. While taps played, we saluted all the men and women who have lost their lives while serving our country, and we placed roses on crosses that represented veterans from Kershaw County who have lost their lives. It has been a great opportunity to have the honor of attending this ceremony for two years, and I am proud to say I have shown my respect to our veterans in such a well organized and meaningful way.

SFC Sean Orcutt of Winter Haven, Florida

