

**Sunshine CC Estates  
Memorial Day**

**Monday 25 May 2020**

***“Remembering our loved ones”***

**Program:**

**Welcome: Lenore Combs**

**Veterans tribute:**

**“Freedom Is Not Free” - Randy Nicholas**

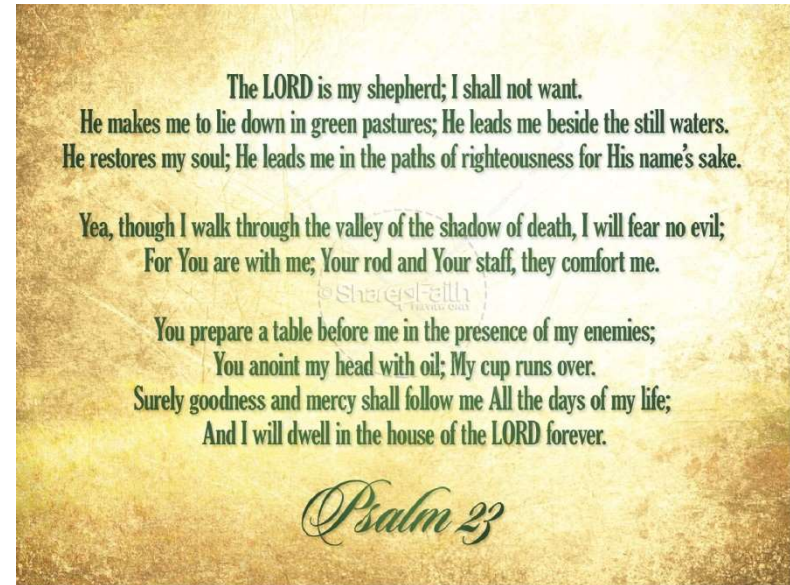
**SCCE Role Call: John Combs**

**Moment of Silence**

**Pledge of Allegiance: all**



**John Combs -- Role Call  
Honoring deceased Sunshine residents 2020:**



**Duane Shriver 9 January 2020  
Gil Burney 2 February 2020  
Bill Bond 24 February USAF 2020  
Ken Just 4 April 2020  
Gene Rice 6 April 2020  
Steve Phillips 3 May 2020**

**Honoring beloved Son of Dick & Linda Jones  
Honoring resident family/friends recent  
losses and Corvid – 19 victims 2020**

## ***Freedom Is Not Free* by Kelly Strong**

**I watched the Flag pass by one day  
As it fluttered in the breeze  
A young marine saluted it  
And then he stood at ease.  
I looked at him in uniform -  
So young, so tall, so proud  
He'd stand out in any crowd.**

**I thought how many men like him  
Had fallen through the years,  
How many died on foreign soil,  
How many mother's tears.**

**How many pilot's planes shot down,  
How many died at sea,  
How many foxholes were soldier's graves?  
No, freedom is not free.**

**I heard the sound of TAPS one night,  
When everything was still  
I listened to the bugler play  
And felt a sudden chill  
When a Flag had draped a coffin  
Of a brother or a friend.**

**I thought of all the children  
Of the mothers and the wives,  
Of fathers, sons and husbands  
With interrupted lives**

**I thought about a graveyard  
At the bottom of the sea  
Of unmarked graves at Arlington.  
No, freedom is not free.**



**God Bless America**



## **The Soldier's Cross or Battlefield Cross**

**The Rifle:** with Bayonet affixed, is the most important tool to a United States fighting soldier. It is the core to their livelihood and key to their survival.

It is thrust into the ground signifying that the one being remembered died in battle, fighting to the end. It also signifies that the battle is over when the rifle is left this way.

**The Boots:** carry a service member through the fight for our freedom. They are the first and most important means of transportation. The boots are laced at the base of the rifle. They are worn and dirty reminding us of that final march to the last battle.

**Dog Tags:** are worn by each service member. They have imprinted into them, all of the important identifying information regarding that individual. The dog tags are hung from the rifle, so that the name of the fallen will never be forgotten.

**The Helmet:** is an important piece of protection on the battlefield. Some believe that the hat or helmet of the individual represents what that person stood for. It is placed on the rifle signifying the battle is over and a great sacrifice was made. It will never be worn again.

**The Cross:** stands for a tribute and a memory as we honor and never forget.

## *The Story of the Poppy*

The poppy flower only grows in the absence of other flowers and only in ground that has been churned. In perhaps the best known poem of World War I, when Dr. John McCrae observed poppies growing between the crosses on the soldiers' graves, it inspired him to write the poem *In Flanders Fields*. The poppy has since become known as "The Flower of Remembrance" and is worn in memory of our veterans.

*I'm sharing this poppy in remembrance of the veterans as well as the active service members and wishing you a beautiful Memorial Day weekend.*

## **In Flanders fields**

**I**N Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.