Proclamation 6027 of September 22, 1989

Commendation of the Citizens of the Sioux City, Iowa, Tri-State Area

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

On July 19, 1989, our Nation was horrified by the tragic crash of a commercial airliner in Sioux City, Iowa. That catastrophe resulted in the deaths of 112 people. Our Nation mourns the loss of these individuals and grieves for their family and friends. The extent of this tragedy might have been much greater were it not for the heroic efforts of citizens in the Sioux City, Iowa, tri-State area. Residents of Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota responded swiftly to the disaster, dispatching rescue teams to the crash site and voluntarily offering shelter and solace to the injured and their families.

Today, we commend the professionalism of the emergency medical personnel who rushed to the scene or worked tirelessly at nearby hospitals to treat injured passengers. The State and local rescue units and municipal firefighters who extinguished the blaze and extricated victims following the crash demonstrated remarkable speed, skill, and preparedness. We also salute the area residents who volunteered to donate blood or contributed food, blankets, and clothing after the crash; as well as the local college officials who opened their dormitories to the survivors, the families of survivors, rescue teams, and investigators. Their compassion and generosity merit the respect and gratitude of all Americans.

In recognition of the outstanding efforts of these citizens, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 379, has commended their heroism and spirit of volunteerism and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation making such a commendation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby commend the citizens of the Sioux City, Iowa, tri-State area for their extraordinary efforts in response to the tragic aircraft accident of July 19, 1989.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6028 of September 22, 1989

Gold Star Mother's Day

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

On special occasions throughout the year, we Americans pay tribute to those individuals who have helped secure for us the blessings of peace

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and freedom. On Veterans Day, we salute all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces. On Memorial Day, we honor those service men and women who have lost their lives in the line of duty. There is, however, another important group of Americans that deserves our recognition and gratitude—the American Gold Star Mothers.

The American Gold Star Mothers have made a tremendous sacrifice for the sake of our country, losing sons or daughters in armed conflicts. Anyone who has nurtured a growing child knows that there can be no greater loss. The Gold Star Mothers have earned our Nation's admiration not only for the courage they have shown in the face of such suffering, but also for their unwavering devotion to the principles upon which our Nation was founded.

When he first honored the Gold Star Mothers more than 50 years ago, President Franklin Roosevelt, citing the original resolution passed by the Congress, noted that "the American mother is the greatest source of the country's strength and inspiration." He also recited, "we honor ourselves and the mothers of America when we revere and give emphasis to the home as the fountainhead of the state." Today, we once again give due honor to those mothers whose children have given their lives in defense of the ideals of individual liberty and representative government. Whether they made the ultimate sacrifice for our country during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or, more recently, in places such as Grenada and Lebanon, our Nation remembers these young men and women with solemn pride and heartfelt appreciation. To their mothers, we offer our deepest respect and thanks.

In order to convey our Nation's compassion and gratitude for the American Gold Star Mothers, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 115 (June 23, 1936), designated the last Sunday in September as "Gold Star Mother's Day" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this occasion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim September 24, 1989, as Gold Star Mother's Day. I call upon all government officials to display the United States flag on government buildings on this day. I also urge the people of the United States to display the flag and to hold appropriate meetings in their homes, churches, synagogues, or other suitable places, as a public expression of the love, sorrow, and reverence that our Nation holds for American Gold Star Mothers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH