



Director, Army National Guard

May 6, 2003

Reference: Military Spouse Day

In April 1984, Proclamation 5184 announced the first Military Spouse Day. This day was created by President Ronald Reagan and it recognizes the profound importance of spousal commitment to the readiness and well-being of Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve service members, and to the security of the Nation.

This year, May 9th is the official date set aside to recognize and honor our military spouses. Since the days of the colonial militia, our citizen-soldiers have been strengthened and enhanced by the contributions of our Army National Guard military spouses. Time and again, they have made sacrifices in the name of freedom, patriotism, and national safety.

Most recently, the role of our military spouses has been as challenging and critical as ever. Our soldiers who are deployed in support of our Nation's defense serve to their optimal ability because of the support and love they receive from their spouses.

Barbara and I ask that all soldiers at every level join together with us as we salute our Army National Guard spouses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger C. Schultz".

**Roger C. Schultz
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Director, Army National Guard**