



Tucson remembers veterans on Wreaths Across America Day

By Aalia Shaheed
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TUCSON - Tens of thousands of volunteers laid more than a million wreaths at graves across the country to honor fallen veterans.

It's all part of non-profit Wreaths Across America's annual event, which started back in 2007.

National sites include the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery.

Southern Arizona hosted two wreath-laying events for the occasion, at Evergreen Cemetery and the Marana Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

Hundreds of Tucsonans placed wreaths on veterans' graves as a silent thank you for their service.

"We took on the mantle of making sure every veteran has a wreath on this day," said volunteer and veteran, Jason Red. "It's a veteran's cause and it's important to remember those who have come before us."

Arizona's Director of Veterans Services, Wanda Wright, was also on hand to pay her respects.

"The United States is really built on the foundation of our warriors. So I think the nation celebrating and honoring veterans is always a great thing," she said.

Volunteers noted how veteran-supportive the Southern Arizona community is in particular.

"Every time you turn around, there's somebody thanking you for your service," said Red. "We're very appreciative to be in Tucson and Marana and be part of a very veteran supportive community."

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