



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

**GREETINGS:**

It is my distinct honor to join with the Friends of Historic Eden Cemetery and everyone gathered together for the wreath-laying service to pay respect to those soldiers who have given their lives in defense of our freedom.

This Hallowed Ground is the resting place for 90,000 African Americans, among them William Still, Octavius V. Catto, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper. These men and women, from the days of the Underground Railroad and the Civil War, have dedicated, and in many instances, given their lives for the advancement of equality for all mankind.

It is my hope that today's service will give everyone present the opportunity to reflect and honor those whose lives were lost, foster support and fellowship among their families and other veterans, and bring due recognition to everything these soldiers gave to our nation. I thank everyone involved with this project for the many ways you work to progress the principles of liberty, equality, and opportunity.

As Governor and on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I join with you in paying homage to the service members and pioneers in equality who dedicated their lives to improving our nation for *every* American, and thank all veterans for their commitment and dedication to their assignments and one another. Best wishes for a very special ceremony.

*Edward G. Rendell*

EDWARD G. RENDELL

Governor

November 14, 2010

