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THE 13 FOLDS OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

- ★ The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
- ★ The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.
- ★ The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.
- ★ The fourth fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace, as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.
- ★ The fifth fold is a tribute to the United States, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."
- ★ The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
- ★ The seventh fold is a tribute to the armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they are found within or without the boundaries of our republic.
- ★ The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
- ★ The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that has molded the character of the men and women who have made this country great.
- ★ The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.
- ★ The eleventh fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- ★ The twelfth fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.
- ★ The thirteenth and last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."
- ★ After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.