

Home of the Brave

Thank you for coming to our lunch today. It means a lot to all of us to have you here. I'd like you to close your eyes and think of your home when you were my age? Was it safe? Did you have a warm bed to sleep in? Did your parents encourage you to do well in school? Did you know any soldiers who died in a war? Okay, you can open your eyes again.

My home has always been a safe place for me to live. My parents have made it a place where all my worries just fade away. I've been blessed by the parents God has given me. When I am safe I feel loved. I know that around the world there are probably millions of young people who live without a safe home. I worry about those little kids sometimes because I can't imagine that ever happening to me.

The soldiers who have fought for our freedom like my dad, are the most honorable and brave people I think I will ever know. They have put their lives on the line, like our friend Ross so we can be free. I have great respect for someone who could do that for strangers in a foreign land. Wow, that is bravery!

Every human takes life for granted at least once in their life until they lose someone special to them. My grandma was that special person who just recently died. She was an example to me of a different kind of bravery. Grandma Ba showed me bravery through her positive outlook on life. I know there must have been hard times for my grandma. Her own mother died when she was a young girl. She just never let life get her down.

On your table is a lipstick tube this represents how my grandma always had to look good even when she was sick. Lipstick brings color and beauty to a woman's face. It is kind of like freedom because freedom allows people of all color to enjoy the beauty of our land. Next time you see lipstick think about freedom.

In the land of the free and home of the brave, I want you to remember that freedom is not free and don't take things for granted. Be good to your parents, grandparents, spouses, siblings and even strangers. Do your best to bring safety and love into each others' lives.