



## Tom Dreesen

*Tom Dreesen is a regular in all the main showrooms in Las Vegas. He toured the nation for 14 years as the opening act for Frank Sinatra. Tom has made over 500 appearances on national television including 61 stints on the **Tonight Show**. A favorite guest of **David Letterman**, he's even hosted the show during David's absence. On May 14th, 2005, he was presented with the Ellis Island Medal Of Honor Award for Humanitarian Service to his country.*



To all the men and women in our Armed Forces,

I salute you for many of the reasons my colleagues have previously stated here on this site. I served for four years in the U.S. Navy aboard two aircraft carriers, the USS Essex and the USS Tarawa. I also trained for nine months with the Marine Corp at Quonset Point in the Naval Emergency Ground Defense Force (NEGDF). I was 17 when I enlisted and 21 when I came out. I state my age because even though I had a great deal of pride in the outfits I was in - and the tremendous respect I had for our country - it wasn't until years later that I fully began to realize the importance our of military and how necessary your service is from day-to-day, year-in and year-out.

Ronald Reagan said it best, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it on to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

My heart swells with pride when I visit military bases all over the world and meet you face-to-face and see your willingness to "defend this nation against all enemies foreign and domestic." My admiration for you continues with the knowledge that you volunteered to defend our nation at great personal sacrifice to both you and your families. God bless you and God bless America.

Thank you,  
Tom Dreesen