

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day

2019 is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, an event that clearly demonstrated the courage and determination of United States servicemen and women.

To most Americans, that day and World War II itself are historic if not cautionary tales about the potential fragility of our American freedoms and way of life. It is a fragility that even Founding Father Benjamin Franklin warned about when, immediately after signing the Declaration of Independence, he was asked by an onlooker what exactly he had given the country by doing so. To that question he replied: "A republic, if you can hold onto it."

For almost 250 years brave American men and women have been doing precisely that with no more poignant example than June 6, 1944, along five dark beaches in Normandy.

There is a Farm and City Days event in my hometown in Minnesota, which includes a Parade. I immediately saw this annual celebration as an opportunity to honor local WWII veterans in commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day. Event organizers agreed, especially after hearing about the OWOFF's mission to "honor, educate & entertain" our service men and women. We decided to use my 2005 Cadillac CTS-V, in its full OWOFF regalia, as the local heroes Parade car. One of those local hero veterans is my Father, Richard P. Crumb. He's one of the "young" ones at 95 years, and we were parade entry #21. Below are a few photos from the day.

Kim John Crumb

