

The Marine Corps War Memorial

Sometimes a statue is significant because it marks a special moment in history or reminds us of an important event. In the USA, the United States Marine Corps War Memorial statue shows United States soldiers on the island of Iwo Jima, Japan, during World War II (1939–1945). This was the first time United States soldiers landed on Japanese soil. The statue shows a group of soldiers raising the United States flag together. It symbolises cooperation and sacrifice during a time of war. It shows the violence, suffering and bravery of battle, and inspires an emotional response in everyone who sees it.

One of the most interesting facts about this statue is that the sculptor, Felix de Weldon, based it on a famous real-life photo from the war zone. A photojournalist named Joe Rosenthal took the photo. It came to symbolise the experience of war for many Americans. It also told a tragic story. Three of the soldiers in the photo were killed in battle after it was taken. The sculptor used the survivors as models for his work.



Joe Rosenthal's photo

Felix de Weldon's statue