

Being a Patriot, by definition, is "one who loves and supports his or her country", but it doesn't stop there. Being a patriot also means showing respect, loyalty, and defending your nation against domestic or international threat that aims to do harm to our country or its people. There are a lot of different ways people can show that they are patriots, and most do this by joining the military. They are willing to put their lives on the line to defend our country from harm, because they believe that our nation and its people are worth dying for.

I also consider our First Responders, which include Law Enforcement Officers, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, and Firefighters to be patriots. This is because they are the ones who are first in line to respond to any emergency, and are also risking their lives to help keep us safe and out of harms way. But putting your life on the line is not the only way to be considered a patriot. Most people may not be aware, but patriotism also exists in our community. This can be done simply by being a good citizen who exercises their right to vote during an election, by participating or volunteering in local activities and events, making contributions that support your community, and basically just by doing more to help those around you without ever expecting anything in return. Others may have a different opinion about what a patriot or patriotism is, but to me, it is someone who loves, cares, respects, defends, and stands for our flag, our country, and its people!