

Will We Remember Them?

It's November 3rd, 2020 and I'm sitting in my English class. My teacher announces that this year we are submitting entries for the Legion's Remembrance Day contest. I get ready to start my poster, but then I think to myself, who is it that I am remembering? In school we learn about the horrors of war, events like the Holocaust, slavery, and civil wars, but what about the people? We learn about national monuments, landmarks, and commemorative days, but what about the names of our fallen soldiers? What about the soldiers who died for our country, gave themselves for our quality of life?

You remember grandparents, aunts and uncles, mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and cousins; if you're lucky you may even know about other relatives, pieces of your family who served our country. But what about those with no family left to speak for them? Those whose families are long gone, who will remember them? They fought the good fight alongside everyone else, so why shouldn't we pay them the same respects as our own families? What about our veterans, whose spouses have since passed, chock full of stories and memories, with no one to share their stories?

Who will remember them? We remember Juno Beach, but do we remember the 340 men who perished serving our country that day? We remember Vimy Ridge, but do we remember the 3598 men who gave their lives so that we could have our freedom? They sacrificed their jobs, their homes, their families, and their lives to give us what we have today. Who will remember them? I encourage you, and not just on Remembrance Day, to visit a cenotaph, do some research, talk to your veterans, and maybe, just maybe, if we pay attention, who will remember them? We Will Remember Them.