

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 30, 2019

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL TO HOST READING OF THE NAMES CEREMONY OF THOSE WHO DIED DURING OPERATION OVERLORD AT WWII MEMORIAL
Volunteers, including Members of Congress, will read the names of those who died during Operation Overlord and are buried at Normandy American Cemetery in France as part of the 75th Anniversary Commemoration

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On June 5, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) will host a Remembrance Ceremony at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor all those who died during Operation Overlord (June 6 – August 30, 1944). As part of the ceremony, volunteers and members of the public will read the names of those who gave their lives and are buried at Normandy American Cemetery in France.

The Operation Overlord (D-Day) 75th Anniversary Reading of the Names will begin at 4 p.m. and continue through 5 p.m., when there will be a brief ceremony featuring remarks by Barbara George, daughter of Captain Malcolm L. George who died on June 7, 1944 after landing with the invasion force on D-Day. At 5:30 p.m. through 12 a.m., volunteers will continue reading the names of the nearly 9,000 individuals buried at Normandy American Cemetery who perished during Operation Overlord.

“We are grateful to all those volunteering to read the names of our fallen from Operation Overlord, who are helping Friends to ensure that our World War II generation is never forgotten,” said Holly Rotondi, executive director of Friends. “It is not too late to participate in the ceremony and we encourage anyone interested to please register or contact us.”

At the commemoration, volunteers will read the names of those buried at Normandy American Cemetery, and will also honor all who made the ultimate sacrifice during Operation Overlord. Unfortunately, there is no complete list of all those who died during Operation Overlord.

A candlelit vigil will be held during the reading of the names once the sun sets.

The reading of the names is open to all who want to participate. Please [register on our website](#).

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial is the only organization hosting a four-year WWII 75th Anniversary Commemoration, marking each major battle in which American forces participated, at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial's WWII 75th Anniversary Commemoration is generously sponsored by AT&T. Generous support has also been provided by the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation and Worthington Industries.

About Friends of the National World War II Memorial (www.wwiimemorialfriends.org):

Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II and to creating the next “Greatest Generation” of tomorrow. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; hosts an annual teachers conference in Washington, DC; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning, staging, and funding five or more major national commemorative events annually and is currently sponsoring a national four-year World War II 75th anniversary commemoration. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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