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Connecting November 11, 2021

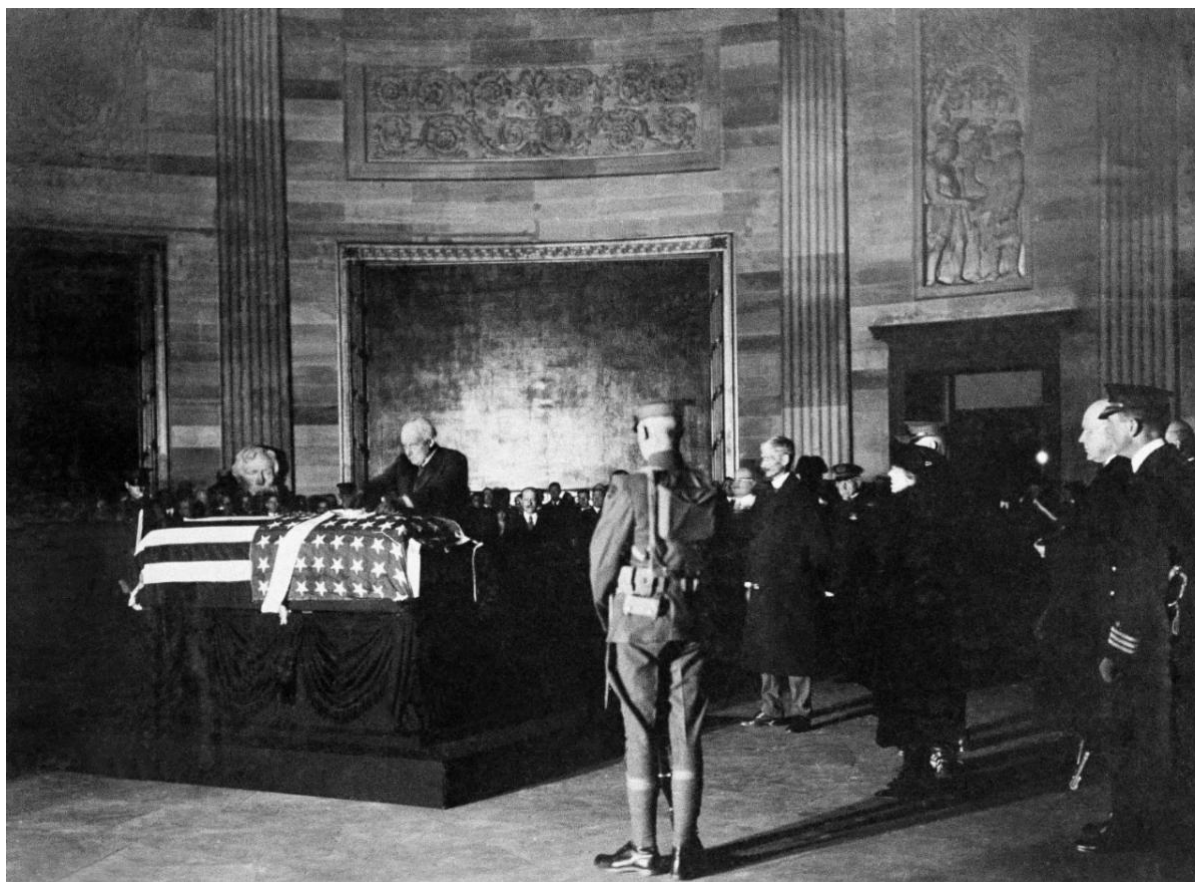
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Veterans Day Issue



President Warren G. Harding places a wreath on the casket of an unknown soldier from World War I in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, Nov. 11, 1921, in Washington. (AP Photo)

Colleagues,

Good Thursday morning on this Nov. 11, 2021,

Happy Veterans Day!

As is our custom on this special holiday, Connecting invited colleagues to share when and with which branch they served and the biggest life's lessons from their military service. We got responses from 47 colleagues and I hope you take the time to read. Some great thoughts.

You may not know that today marks the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery. See [this story](#) from the Washington Post, shared by our colleague **David Skidmore**.

And you may not know that Nov. 9, two days ago, marked an important anniversary for The Associated Press: the first in a series of seven stories on the dedication **that led to the AP's first Pulitzer Prize** -- awarded to **Kirke L. Simpson** of the Washington bureau. On the afternoon of November 9, 1921, he wrote the first story, two days before the dedication, as the soldier's body lay in state in the Capitol.

His lede: "Washington, Nov. 9 -- By The Associated Press). --- A plain soldier, unknown but weighted with honors as perhaps no American before him because he died for the flag of France, lay to-night in a place where only martyred Presidents Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley, have slept in death."

Our colleague **Francesca Pitaro** of AP Corporate Archives shares the story - which notes that as was the case with all AP stories at the time, they carried no byline. But, according to Oliver Gramling in *AP: The Story of News* (pages 296-298), the AP's general offices in New York were overwhelmed by an outpouring of praise and inquiries about the identity of the author. The AP then disclosed Simpson's name and published a booklet containing the seven stories.

Skidmore noted: "Generations of AP reporters who have enjoyed seeing their names atop the stories they wrote on the wire, if not in member newspapers, owe our bylines to Simpson's eloquence."

Remember the POW/MIA bracelets that many of us wore in the '60s and '70s in honor of American servicemen being held in captivity or missing during the Vietnam War. Our colleague **Sandy Kozel** shares the story of the Navy man whose bracelet Sandy wore and what became of him. See today's Final Word.

Know a veteran? Thank him or her for their service. Me, I will be with other veterans at my grandson's elementary school this morning for a special program that was initiated years ago in large part by my daughter, a second-grade teacher at the school.

Have a great day - be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Kirke Simpson: AP's First Pulitzer Winner



Kirke Simpson, Associated Press war analyst and Pulitzer Prize winner, retires to his typewriter and his maps to study the day's war dispatches and report for Associated Press member newspapers, Sept. 2, 1943. (AP Photo)

By FRANCESCA PITARO ([Email](#))

"Under the wide and starry skies of his homeland America's unknown dead from France sleeps tonight, a soldier home from the wars. Alone, he lies in the narrow cell of stone that guards his body; but his soul has entered into the spirit that is America."

Kirke L. Simpson (1881- 1972) had been an AP reporter for 13 years when he wrote these words on Nov. 11, 1921. It was the culmination of his reporting on events commemorating the third anniversary of the armistice that ended World War I. In the days leading up to November 11, Simpson wrote seven stories reporting on the arrival of the body of the unknown soldier in Washington, where he lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda, the various speakers who paid tribute, and finally, the entombment ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery. According to Simpson only one of the stories was planned and the others came "right off the cuff."

Simpson's writing moved the American public and newspaper editors alike, many of whom wrote to ask the author's name. These requests led to the unprecedented step of granting Simpson a byline, which was the beginning of the end for AP's "no byline" rule. An article in the December 1921 Service Bulletin explained the decision to reveal Simpson's name:

"Mr. Simpson's truthful and impressive portrayal of these events brought widespread appreciation from newspapers and individuals throughout the United States and so importunate became the inquiries as to who had written them, that contrary to its usual rule, the New York office in a Note to Editors gave out the information."

Simpson's Unknown Soldier series won him the Pulitzer Prize, the first in AP's history. The AP received so many requests for Simpson's stories that they issued a pamphlet with all seven articles. In 1928, General Manager Kent Cooper issued a second edition to meet the continued demand.

Simpson joined the AP in San Francisco in 1909. He moved to the Washington bureau in 1913 covering the State Department and what were then known as the War and Navy departments. It was on the Navy Department beat that Simpson forged a lasting friendship with Franklin Delano Roosevelt who served as secretary of the Navy from 1913-1920. Covering the Republican National Convention in Chicago in 1920, Simpson got news of Harding's nomination and wrote this memorable lead: "Harding of Ohio was chosen by a group of men in a smoke-filled room early today as Republican candidate for president." Many, including William Safire in "Safire's Political Dictionary" (Oxford University Press, 2008) credit Simpson with adding the phrase 'smoke filled room' to the lexicon of political writing.

From 1928 until his retirement in 1945 Simpson wrote a regular bylined column, "The Washington Bystander." When asked why he had not written his memoirs, Simpson replied: "I've never felt any urge about it. I always preferred straight news."

Read an excerpt from The Tomb of The Unknown Soldier stories by clicking [here](#).

A salute to Connecting veterans



This photo was taken last Sunday in Manhattan's Union Square in New York City. Beneath the U.S. flag flies the POW-MIA flag to remember and honor the American

service people unaccounted for - 72,598 since World War II. (Photo courtesy Connecting colleague John Epperson)

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Veterans were asked for their branch of service and years served, and for lessons learned from their service.)

Hank Ackerman ([Email](#)) – 1st Lt., U.S. Army Signal Corps, Operations Officer, Strategic Communications Command/South, Panama Canal Zone, 1965-1967.

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Harry Atkins ([Email](#)) – U.S. Air Force, 1959 – 1963. Met a girl one afternoon at Savannah Beach who would one day become my wife. Lynn and I have now been married 55 years.

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Jim Bagby ([Email](#)) – Spec. 5, Army, 1967-1969. Most important lesson learned: Giving orders is an acquired skill, as is accepting them. In both cases, there can be no room nor time for debate.

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Hal Bock ([Email](#)) – When I graduated from NYU, the draft was still in effect (tells you how old I am) so I enlisted in the Army Reserves, My serial number was BR12613433 and I still have my dog tags, just in case I am needed again. I served with the 307th General Hospital with six months active duty in Fort Dix, NJ and Fort Sam Houston, TX, 5 1/2 years active reserve which meant weekly meetings and two weeks summer camp at Camp Drum NY. Used my AP vacation time for that duty. Also served in meetings each Sunday at Fort Tilden NY. When I put on my uniform including combat boots, my 3-year-old son asked my wife why daddy was wearing those funny shoes. I trained as a medic but my advice to you is if you get hurt, find somebody more qualified than me to treat you.

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Tim Bovee ([Email](#)) – U.S. Air Force 1967-1971, in Turkey and Vietnam, and at Ft. Meade. In a basic training class on strategy, the instructor said that military planning must be based on an adversary's capabilities, not our reading of intentions. In other

words, plan for the worst case, not what you think is likely. That has been a core guide for me up to the present day.

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Paul Bowker ([Email](#)) – U.S. Army, 1973-1976, Fort Riley, Kansas. Biggest lesson: The military teaches you to function and contribute as part of a larger "team." I was always active in sports as a kid, but in the Army you have to grow up fast, beginning with basic training. You learn what teamwork is really all about. You celebrate the victories, whether it is passing a PT (Physical Training) test with your buddies at basic or piling through two weeks of paperwork at your job on base. It truly set me up to succeed in newsrooms, where nightly deadlines require a team effort. Biggest reward: The Army and Fort Riley introduced me to Kansas. Me, an 18-year-old kid from suburban Boston who had never been out of Massachusetts. I loved it so much I stayed in Kansas at K-State and then KU, eventually winding up at KC Star.

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Henry Bradsher ([Email](#)) – Air Force intelligence officer, 1952-55, States and Europe. Lesson: learning to work with less-educated people and particularly helping drafted enlisted men prepare for later careers.

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Hal Buell ([Email](#)) – US Army, Signal Corps photographer, two years (1954-1956) Tokyo Japan. Worked part time with AP writing shorts three nights a week which lead to job in Chicago, etc.

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Darrell Christian ([Email](#)) – Navy, 1968-72

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Darrell Condon ([Email](#)) – USMC, 1965 – 1971, SSgt. Eat when you can, sleep when you can. You never know when the chance will come again.

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John Eagan (Email) – Served in U.S. Army 1954-57 as personnel management specialist, attaining rank of Specialist 3rd Class (equivalent of corporal). Spent 18 months in 101st Division at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and 18 months in 1st Chemical Battalion in Baumholder, Germany. Earned Bachelor of Science in Journalism degree from University of Florida, thanks largely to the G.I. Bill, which also helped me buy my first house.

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Michael Embry (Email) – U.S. Air Force, 1969-73. Serving in the military brought needed discipline in my life that helped me become more organized and conscientious in later personal and professional endeavors.

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John Epperson (Email) – 1966-1970. U.S. Air Force, SAC, 15th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron.

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Claude Erbsen (Email) – Navy, Nov 1961-April 1965, Public Information Officer, The Pentagon, plus multiple temporary duty assignments.

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Joe Frazier (Email) – Marine Corps, 1967-1969. Two miserable years that showed a profession I wanted nothing more to do with, ever.

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Denne Freeman (Email) – One year wonder 1959-60. Got commission at Texas A&M. Also was a 2nd Lt. in PIO office at Ft. Lee, Va., where learned the hard way to get the rank correct of the commanding officer on the post's radio show after calling him a major instead of major general.

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Steve Graham (Email) – I served in the United States Marine Corps 1957-61. That was after Korea and before Vietnam and the closest I ever came to combat was trying to get some rather inebriated buddies back to the base after a night on the town in Yokosuka, Japan before the liberty deadline. The military should have taught me never to volunteer for anything, but somehow that didn't stick. My service did, however, get me the Cold War GI Bill, which got me through college after the Marines and I parted company.

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Denis Gray (Email) – US Army, Captain. 1969-71 Japan and Vietnam. Great to be with men and women comrades from all walks of American life.

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Charlie Hanley (Email) –U.S. Army, 1969-1970, South Carolina/Vietnam.

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Jerry Harkavy (Email) – I served three years in the Army, from 1965 to 68. I spent my final year in Vietnam as an information officer attached to the 173rd Airborne Brigade and later with the Americal Division. Perhaps my biggest life lesson was recognizing how soldiers from diverse backgrounds and different parts of the country could overcome regional and cultural biases and work together on a common mission.

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Mike Harris (Email) – I joined the U.S. Army Reserve in the winter of 1966, while finishing up my final semester at the University of Wisconsin. I spent my entire active duty, from February 1967 through the beginning of August that year, at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The rest of my six-year commitment was spent in weekend meetings and two-week summer encampments. The biggest thing I learned about myself during my active duty was that I had the ability to be a leader. I was older than most of the recruits, and I was also the only college graduate among the enlisted men in my company. The officers made me an acting corporal and gave me a lot of responsibility for the young men around me.

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Mike Holmes (Email) – U.S. Navy, 1970-1972. Life lesson: People from all walks of life can get along when they have to.

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Repps Hudson (Email) – Army, 1966-1969; I learned to appreciate all I have and to not waste my life, which I might have done had I not dropped out of the University of Missouri and gone into basic training. Being an infantry platoon leader was a rich and wonderful and sometimes scary experience for a 21-year-old Missouri farm boy. And I used every month of GI Bill benefits to finish college and earn a master's.

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Gerald Jackson (Email) – CAPT-USNR, 28 years service. Discipline is my lesson learned.

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Bill Kaczor (Email) - I served in the Air Force from January 1969 through December 1972. After training at Lackland AFB, Texas, and Chanute AFB, Illinois, I completed my enlistment with the 33rd Tactical Fighter Wing at Eglin AFB, Florida. The life lesson I learned most was patience. There is some truth to the perception that it's "hurry up and wait" in the military. Upon arrival at basic we were told to tell anyone who asked that we had PT -- physical training -- that day even if we didn't because we often had to skip it in a rush to accomplish all the other things we had to do. At tech school, though, there was a two-month wait for a class in weather equipment repair to open before the Air Force decided I should, instead, be trained as a flight simulator specialist. I learned to just wait and everything would work out in the end. My simulator job left me plenty of time to moonlight with local newspapers. When I got out, I stayed in the Florida Panhandle to continue my journalism career including 33 years with the AP.

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Brent Kallestad (Email) – USN 1966-70 (JO3). Although it's difficult to pinpoint a singular life's lesson from my Navy career, the overall experience in so many ways was one I'd never trade. Interestingly though, contacts established in an off-duty newspaper job during my final two years on active duty created a significant reference that led to my hiring by AP.

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Jim Limbach ([Email](#)) – US Army, 1965-1968.

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Dick Lipsey ([Email](#)) - Army, 1968-88; discipline & perseverance.

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Dave Lubeski ([Email](#)) – Army - 1967-68. I was a medic in the infantry. Biggest life lesson: Discipline.

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John Marlow ([Email](#)) – US Navy, 1953-1957. Boot Camp at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Yeoman School at Bainbridge MD, two years at Newport RI naval base attached to Schools Command, two years with military detachment at Los Alamos Nuclear Laboratory participating in nuclear test program on Bikini (1956), Nevada Test Site (1957) and Eniwetok (as a civilian-1958). reached rank of Yeoman 2nd Class (YN2). Best lesson: working together, depending on each other, treating each other with respect, consideration and thoughtfulness. Very useful in my AP career. Thanks for honoring us Vets.

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Joe McGowan ([Email](#)) – I joined the U.S. Navy Reserve while a student at U. Of Wyoming. Several of us drove the 50 miles to Cheyenne Tuesday nights for the weekly meeting. We also went for the annual active duty, usually on a ship. After graduating from UW in 1952, I applied for active duty. Finally got orders to the USS PCE 899, a training ship based in Milwaukee. After two years, returned to Wyoming. With encouragement from Navy, applied for and got a commission. Attended meetings, but then AP sent me to India. I couldn't attend meetings or go on two week's active duty so I resigned with a total 17 years time.

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David Minthorn ([Email](#)) – U.S. Army, 1966–69. Be patient, take advantage of opportunities.

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Mike McPhee (Email) – Served in US Army 1966-68. Commissioned 2nd Lt., Corps of Engineers. Fought in Tet Offensive, S. Vietnam, 1968. Two Bronze Stars, for heroism and for meritorious service against a hostile force.

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Lyle Price (Email) - I entered the Army at 17 right out of high school and served from 1954 to 1957 in slots ranging from a classification and assignment specialist to a few months as a public information reporter (where I once had a story slapped "secret" and locked in a safe at S2) and served with the artillery north of the 38th parallel in Korea (after the war there had ended) and at a then-novel Nike missile site in Rhode Island. The biggest thing I learned in the military was to size up people and situations in order to get things done. I consider this more valuable than anything I subsequently learned in college on the GI bill.

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Marty Rose (Email) – I served in the Air Force June 1967 through June 1971. I had to wait because so many were enlisting at the time mostly to avoid being drafted. The lottery system was not in effect yet. They had to open a second place for basic training because Lackland, in San Antonio, was full, so I had basic in Amarillo. During basic we were tested mentally and physically for six weeks. After the testing, you get put into a category, mechanical, electronic, administrative, or general. They also ask you to choose a region where you would prefer to be stationed. You can imagine computers back then, I asked for the east coast or west coast and you guessed it, I got sent to San Antonio, where I worked in aircraft scheduling and was introduced to computerized flight records. I worked in flight records the rest of my four years, both in Nha Trang, Vietnam and my last duty station in Chicopee Falls, Mass. I was a Staff Sergeant running my department at the end of my enlistment. What I learned in service, helped me when I started at AP because the stock market department in Business News used the same computer I was familiar with, for a while until they upgraded. Got my first post service job at a veterans job fair until I landed an interview with Lou Felice. Besides the verbal, I took a written test and since I was strong in fractions, I'm sure I aced it. Stocks traded in eighths but cheap ones went as low as 1/256. I had a great 42 years at AP working with many wonderful people.

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Mike Rouse (Email) – I spent 13 months in South Korea in the early 1960s and not once while I was there did the North invade. Just saying ...

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Jeff Rowe (Email) – USAF 1971 – 1975. Lasting lesson learned: Attention to detail.

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Michael Short (Email) – 1961-1964, infantry officer, USMC.

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Hal Spencer (Email) – United States Marine Corps, July 24, 1966-July 24, 1968. At any given time, only 50 percent of the people get the word.

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Paul Stevens (Email) – U.S. Air Force, 1968-72. Historian for SAC 43rd Bomb Wing (B-58s) and editor of Air Scoop at Little Rock AFB. Editor of Tactical Air Command news service at Langley AFB, Va. Learned to take orders and give orders. Made many lifelong friendships. Grateful for GI Bill to get master's degree and to buy our first house, in Wichita. A real growing-up experience for newly marrieds Linda and me. We weren't in Iowa anymore!

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Mike Tharp (Email) – Was drafted Jan. 13, 1969, into the Army. He landed in Vietnam July 22, 1969, and wrote for the monthly military magazine Hurricane until he finished his hitch Aug. 16, 1969. He was awarded a Bronze Star. His mind and body are still messed up from the tour.

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Jeffrey Ulbrich (Email) - Army, 1962-64.

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Roger Wallace (Email) – I served in The Army Security Agency from 1963-67, 4 years. I served 1.5 years in Okinawa and 2 years in Warrenton, VA. I worked in communications centers. The greatest lesson I learned is that is not about yourself but working for the whole good of your unit. Whether you liked it or not you did what had to be done to get through the situation. The cast of characters was unbelievable. You can't make this up. My brother Doug Wallace worked for the AP for a short period after separation. Doug served two tours in Vietnam. Doug served from 1969-72. He was infantry. Thank you for remembering and caring. What a labor of love you perform.

-0-

Harold Waters (Email) - I served 30 months in the U.S Army during WW2. Twenty-seven of those months were in the European theater. My training was on 40mm and 90mm Anti-Aircraft guns. North Africa was our first stop after basic training. Casablanca then Oran. We then took a week rest on Corsica. Our next stop was just below Naples, Italy. There we provided cover for field artillery. Most of our targets were low-flying German fighter planes, ME109's, on strafing missions. We followed the Germans and Italians north, through the mud, mules and mountains, within sight Pizza, Italy. There were sent back to Naples to prepare for the invasion of southern France. We entered southern France several miles below Nancy. We drove north to the southern border of Germany where it finally ended.

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George Widman (Email) – Served in the U.S. Navy, 1965-1969, all in Navy Air intelligence - and no, "military intelligence" is not an oxymoron. In the Vietnam War, lives depended upon air intel being accurate, timely, well-sourced and comprehensive. It was the military version of what the AP strives for every day. As Joe Friday* might say, "Just the facts, ma'am." Reading "The Stars and Stripes" in those years, while at the same time generating real verifiable information, could be perplexing. In the years since, it's been galling to hear politicians blame "bad intelligence" for their poor choices, as in the 2003 Iraq invasion, when cherry-picked intel was the real cause. * "Dagnet," a radio and TV show from the 1950s.

-0-

Jeff Wilson (Email) - U.S. Navy, 1967-1971. The military brotherhood cannot be understated. And serving in faraway nations gave an enduring perspective of life beyond Burbank.

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Arnold Zeitlin ([Email](#)) – Your appeal for veteran stories has brought back memories, Paul. I served as a reluctant draftee in the Army from 1953-55. The Army apparently was not sure what to do with me because in basic training I could never figure out how to break down and put back together my carbine. It stuck me in the medical corps as a medic, presumably on the conviction I would do less damage there. I actually failed as a medic because I could never bring myself to stick people to draw blood. I ended up with a field hospital unit at Ford Meade, Maryland, that essentially was a holding company for soldiers coming in from Korea and other places. A couple of times we all were ferried to Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia where we set up tents and pretended to be a working hospital. Most of the time in the field I spent in the X-ray tent because it was air conditioned. I got tired of white washing rocks and started writing about my unit for the Fort Meade newspaper, often winning the top three monthly cash awards it gave for best articles. That was a boon, adding to my monthly PFC pay of \$90 a month. I also wrote articles about people in the company for their hometown newspapers, including our commanding captain. That got me in his good graces. I ended up being the troop information and education NCO, which gave me a certain amount of power. Not only did I cut out and post on the company bulletin board articles from The Washington Post, I was responsible to helping members of the unit apply for army schools. I also ran weekly information sessions that helped when I was assigned KP duty. The kitchen staff didn't want me to call on them during those sessions, so I got easy KP duty. I also got my own room in the barracks. I rose to the rank of corporal (or specialist 2, I think). The Army offered to make me a sergeant if I re-upped. No thanks. The day my duty ended, I left all my GI stuff in a locker and walked out of Fort Meade in civvies. I learned the Army was full of waste and lost opportunities to bring people together. I was grateful for the GI bill, however. It allowed me to go in September 1955 to the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Dorothy Downton - ddownton@sbcglobal.net

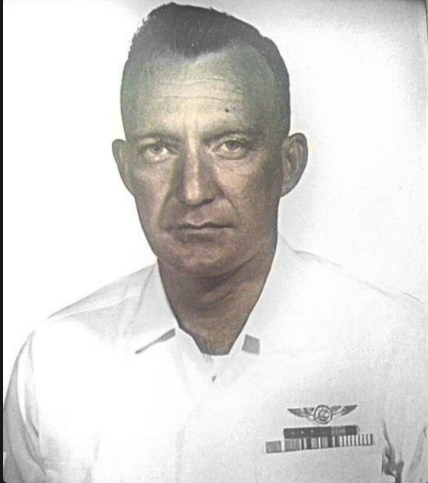
The Final Word

Finding the story of the veteran on his POW-MIA bracelet



Sandy Kozel (Email) - This POW-MIA bracelet never left my wrist for years when I was younger. When I got to DC in the '80s, I checked the list of names at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial... and Henry Herrin's was there, etched into the wall. For this Veterans Day, it finally occurred to me to do an online search. Learned he was from Massachusetts... a Navy Photographer's Mate First Class... on an aircraft that went missing while on a night reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam, most likely over the Gulf of Tonkin, on the first day of 1968. A search and rescue effort failed to locate the aircraft (call sign "Quiz Show 910") or a crash site. The crew of three was declared missing. They were later classified as "non-recoverable."

Thank you to all veterans for your service... and to Henry Howard Herrin Jr. and so many others for their ultimate sacrifice.



VIEW ALL PHOTOS (2)

HONORED ON PANEL 33E, LINE 13 OF THE WALL

HENRY HOWARD HERRIN JR

WALL NAME
HENRY H HERRIN JR

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Celebrating AP's 175th

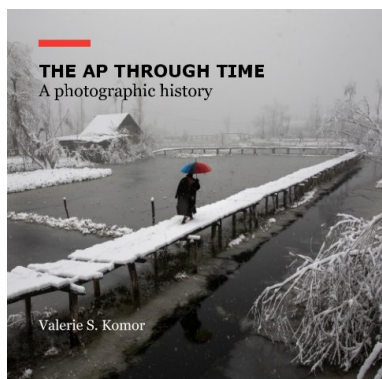
AP store for 175th, vintage merchandise



The AP has created a store with 175th anniversary merchandise available for purchase, as well as items branded with some of AP's most historic logos.

Click [Here](#).

AP Through Time: A Photographic History



AP Through Time: A Photographic History" - created by Director of Corporate Archives, Valerie Komor, is a keepsake commemorating AP's 175th year. Small in size (6 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.), it is organized chronologically in eight segments that trace the broad outlines of AP's development from 1846 to the present: Beginnings, Evolution, New Century, Modernity, Expansion, One World, Speed, and Transformation. Click [here](#) to view and make an order.

Today in History - Nov. 11, 2021



By The Associated Press

**Today is Thursday, Nov. 11, the 315th day of 2021. There are 50 days left in the year.
Today is Veterans Day.**

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 11, 1620, 41 Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, anchored off Massachusetts, signed a compact calling for a "body politick."

On this date:

In 1831, former slave Nat Turner, who'd led a slave uprising, was executed in Jerusalem, Virginia.

In 1918, fighting in World War I ended as the Allies and Germany signed an armistice in the Forest of Compiègne (kohm-PYEHN'-yeh).

In 1921, the remains of an unidentified American service member were interred in a Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in a ceremony presided over by President Warren G. Harding.

In 1938, Irish-born cook Mary Mallon, who'd gained notoriety as the disease-carrying "Typhoid Mary" blamed for the deaths of three people, died on North Brother Island in New York's East River at age 69 after 23 years of mandatory quarantine.

In 1942, during World War II, Germany completed its occupation of France.

In 1966, Gemini 12 blasted off on a four-day mission with astronauts James A. Lovell and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. aboard; it was the tenth and final flight of NASA's Gemini program.

In 1972, the U.S. Army turned over its base at Long Binh to the South Vietnamese, symbolizing the end of direct U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam War.

In 1987, following the failure of two Supreme Court nominations, President Ronald Reagan announced his choice of Judge Anthony M. Kennedy, who went on to win

confirmation.

In 1992, the Church of England voted to ordain women as priests.

In 1998, President Clinton ordered warships, planes and troops to the Persian Gulf as he laid out his case for a possible attack on Iraq. Iraq, meanwhile, showed no sign of backing down from its refusal to deal with U.N. weapons inspectors.

In 2003, in Galveston, Texas, millionaire Robert Durst was found not guilty of murdering Morris Black, an elderly neighbor who Durst said he'd killed accidentally.

In 2004, Palestinians at home and abroad wept, waved flags and burned tires in an eruption of grief at news of the death of Yasser Arafat in Paris at age 75.

Ten years ago: Heralding the end of one war and the drawdown of another, President Barack Obama observed Veterans Day at Arlington National Cemetery by urging Americans to hire the thousands of servicemen and women coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. A gunman armed with an assault rifle fired a series of shots at the White House from long range (Oscar Ramiro Ortega-Hernandez was sentenced to 25 years in prison under a plea bargain with prosecutors.)

Five years ago: President-elect Donald Trump shook up his transition team as he plunged into the work of setting up his administration, elevating Vice President-elect Mike Pence to head the operations. Three days after Election Day, President Barack Obama used his last Veterans Day speech to urge Americans to learn from the example of veterans as a divided nation sought to "forge unity" after the bitter 2016 campaign. Actor Robert Vaughn, 83, died in Connecticut.

One year ago: Georgia's secretary of state announced an audit of presidential election results that he said would be done with a full hand tally of ballots because the margin was so tight; President-elect Joe Biden led President Donald Trump by about 14,000 votes out of nearly 5 million votes counted in the state. Texas became the first state with more than 1 million confirmed COVID-19 cases. The U.S. marked Veterans Day with virtual gatherings and spectator-free parades; many of the traditional ceremonies were canceled because of the surging coronavirus that had killed thousands of veterans. Cleveland Indians ace Shane Bieber was the unanimous winner of the American League Cy Young Award; in the National League, Trevor Bauer became the first Cincinnati Reds pitcher to win the award.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Narvel Felts is 83. Former Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., is 81. Americana roots singer/songwriter Chris Smither is 77. Rock singer-musician Vince Martell (Vanilla Fudge) is 76. The president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, is 76. Rock singer Jim Peterik (PEE'-ter-ihk) (Ides of March, Survivor) is 71. Golfer Fuzzy Zoeller is 70. Pop singer-musician Paul Cowsill (The Cowsills) is 70. Rock singer-musician Andy Partridge (XTC) is 68. Singer Marshall Crenshaw is 68. Rock singer Dave Alvin is 66. Rock musician Ian Craig Marsh (Human League; Heaven 17) is 65. Actor Stanley Tucci is 61. Actor Demi Moore is 59. Actor Calista Flockhart is 57. Actor Frank John Hughes is 54. TV personality Carson Kressley is 52. Actor David DeLuise is 50. Actor Adam Beach is 49. Actor Tyler Christopher is 49. Actor Leonardo DiCaprio is 47. Actor Scoot McNairy is 44. Rock musician Jonathan Pretus (formerly

with Cowboy Mouth) is 40. Actor Frankie Shaw is 40. Musician Jon Batiste is 35. Actor Christa B. Allen is 30. Actor Tye Sheridan is 25. Actor Ian Patrick is 19.

Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Most unusual place a story assignment took you.**



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