

This year marks the centennial of The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

By Carol Kerr 01 November 2021



The Unknown Soldier is an American warrior who served with fellow Americans and allies of the United States to represent the ideals and principles of the country – inspiring reflection on valor and sacrifice in service to the nation.

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This year marks the centennial of The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Since 1921, it has provided a final resting place for unidentified American service members from World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

"The Unknown Soldier today represents all of the men and women not just unknown but buried in faraway cemeteries the world over," said Dr. Michael Neiberg. "The tomb is therefore a monument to national sacrifice not just from the First World War but from all of the nation's wars," noted the US Army War College Faculty-Historian and author of *The Path to War: How the First World War Created Modern America* (Oxford Press,

2016).

The memorial and grave for three unknown American service members serves as reminder of service and sacrifice, and connects visitors at the Arlington National Cemetery to the legacy of the U.S. Armed Forces throughout the nation's history.

The Army honors America's commitment to never forget or forsake those who served and sacrificed for the country. The Unknown Soldier is an American warrior who served with fellow Americans and allies of the United States to represent the ideals and principles of the country – inspiring reflection on valor and sacrifice in service to the nation.

Learn more at the Tomb of the Unknown page (linked on this page).

- Schedule of events to honor The Unknown Soldier this month: 21-gun salute Nov. 9 at the Washington Navy Yard; a first: public access to the tomb plaza to pay respects, Nov 9-10 (with tickets); Joint Full Honors procession to replicate elements of the 1921 Unknown Soldiers funeral procession on Nov. 11, flyover on Nov. 11, Armed Forces Full Honors Wreath Ceremony on Nov. 11, National Veterans Day Observance at the Memorial Amphitheater livestreamed Nov. 11. [Return to this page for livestream URLs when made available]
- A learning module explores the history and meaning of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier -- part of Arlington Cemetery's new Education Program's free, virtual and in-person leaning resources - for educators, students of all grade levels, visiting families and lifelong learners.
- Visiting Arlington National Cemetery? Learn about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the gravesites of individuals related to the Tomb's history in a two-mile walking tour, supported by the attached walking tour .pdf.