

3-30-2023 - SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY

What does the number "**SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY**" mean to you? Is it how many days in a two-year period? Is it how many miles you can go with 38 gallons of gas, if you get 20 miles per gallon in your car? Is it just over 31 days in terms of hours? Is it a just over how many NFL Players can be suited up per team, on an average, in 16 Pro Football Teams? "**SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY**" has a much deeper meaning for those of us in the Washington American Legion. "**SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY**" is how many of our Brothers and Sisters were "*Transferred to Post Everlasting*" just this last year in 2022! That's an average of 2 Members we have lost per day from our ranks! Does your Post seem smaller as we begin 2023? It should! Do we take the time to remember them. Does your Chaplain know who they were, or even that they died? Have you taken the time to remember each of them in a Post Everlasting Ceremony at your Post? Have you reached out to the families that won't be celebrating the Birthdays with one more candle for their Loved ones this year? Or do YOU even know who they were? Certainly, we remember those who were active or close to us, but what about those who haven't been called, just to say "HI!"

SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY - Think about that. Yes, it IS a big number, but I hope and Pray that it relates to much more than just a "Number" to all of you. It reflects **SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY** Washington Legionnaires that gave of their yesterday's so we could have our tomorrows. It is **SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY** Veterans that gave a portion of their lives to protect our Democracy, our Freedoms, our way of life. How many have YOU lost in YOUR Department? Are THEY being remembered?

I'm going to leave it there for you to think about. Think about who you haven't seen for a while. Think about pulling out your Post Phone List (*you do have one, don't you?*) and making a few calls. YOU might be the last one to talk to someone before they are transferred to Post Everlasting and find themselves in our Supreme Commanders realm of Everlasting Peace. YOU might **BE THE ONE** last friendly voice they hear from someone who cares about them. Let us ALL NEVER FORGET anyone in our ranks to let them know that they matter, that someone cares about them. Keep them ALL in your thoughts and prayers.

In and by your own faith, say a Prayer, light a candle, or however you wish, for those who have passed, for those who are ill, for all your brothers and sisters that may be facing challenges, that they don't

become MISSING IN ACTION and most certainly, **NOT FORGOTTEN**.
"For God and Country". Amen.