

Veterans Day Review

From the word I got from Moorhead, our Red River Valley Veterans Concert band was a great as ever. They had a really full day. Here in Arizona, we went to the local Veterans Day event, held outside, of course, since it was almost 80 degrees. The local Bavarian Band was good, but not as good as our Veterans Concert Band. The local Patriot Guard rode in with flags flying from the back of their bikes. I almost wished that I'd brought my bike down here. Green Valley also placed flags along the main north south street in town. It looked really nice. We didn't try for any free meals on Veterans Day, but the manager of the restaurant where we had breakfast gave me a 'free dessert' coupon.

Here are some special Veterans Day stories as reported by ABC News. In Cape Girardeau, MO, a 92 year old Marine wore his dress blues to his nieces wedding and was 'something blue'. A Marine surprised his girlfriend on the snow-covered doorstep of her home in Parma OH to propose. My best friend while stationed in Indiana was from Cleveland and his girlfriend was from Parma. I also found a couple Veterans who were born on November 11. Donald Semple born 11 November 1925 served in WWII celebrated his 92nd birthday. In Indianola, IA, Navy Veteran Jack Richards celebrated his 100th birthday on Veterans Day. "Buddy" Poladian, in California celebrated his November 9th birthday on Veterans Day, he was 100 years old. The University of Minnesota working with the Student Veterans Association honored our Veterans in a unique way. Each Gopher player had the last name of a current or former U of M student who served in the military featured on the back of their helmet.

On 11 November 1921, President Warren G. Harding dedicated the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier a white marble sarcophagus in Arlington National Cemetery with the inscription "HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD".

On 11 November 1885, George S Patton was born in San Gabriel, CA. Patton went on to fight in both WWI and WWII, serving as commander of the US Seventh Army. And in case you missed it, the US Marine Corps celebrated its 242nd birthday on 10 November. The first recruiting headquarters in 1775 was the Tun Tavern on Water St in Philadelphia.

On Veterans Day, President Trump told reporters that Russian President Putin told him that he had nothing to do with US elections and Trump believed him. Trump also went on to call James Clapper and John Brennan political hacks. Just for the record, Clapper is retired General, flew over 70 combat support missions in Vietnam and was a senior intelligence officer in the Air Force. As you know, I served as a Russian linguist and intelligence analyst in the Air Force and I am appalled at Trump calling respected Veterans liars.