

Daily Devotion For November 11, 2022

"I thank my God every time I remember you." - Philippians 1:3

Yesterday I attended the graveside service for Richard Yoshida Jr. at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery. As the service began, the Military Honor Guard came forward and presented the United States Flag to Junior's surviving daughters and then said, "On behalf of the President of the United States, the United States Air Force and a grateful nation, please accept this flag as a symbol of our appreciation for your loved one's honorable and faithful service."

It was the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month in 1918 when the world celebrated a treaty that was signed ending what was to be "the war to end all wars" - World War I.

One year later, on what came to be known as Armistice Day, Americans came together to remember and honor the sacrifices of the men and women who served during the war. Soldiers who survived the war marched in parades and were honored by speeches and ceremonies recognizing their contribution to peace throughout the world.

Congress declared Armistice Day a national holiday in 1938. By this time, with unrest in much of the world, Americans realized World War I would not be the last war. After the Second World War, which was even bloodier than the first, Armistice Day continued to be observed. In 1954, Congress changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day to include veterans of all United States wars.

Today, Americans honor the service and sacrifice of our armed forces in the past as well as the present on Veterans Day. The official, national ceremony takes place at Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers.

Thought And Prayer For Today: Take time today to thank God for all those who wear and have worn the uniform of the United States of America. If you have a chance, thank a veteran. Thank God that the freedoms we enjoy in our country have been received at a high price including those who have paid the "ultimate price." Deo Volente.