

# Written In Stone

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## **Patriot Day**

Cemeteries are considered to be the history of people—a perpetual record of yesterday, a sanctuary of peace and quiet today. The rest of that quote states that a ‘cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering—always.’ As we all participate in the observance of “Patriot Day” this coming Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be reminded of those who were lost to us on that fateful day in American history. Just as in the past, others before us were reminded of those they lost—whether it was because of conflict, war, terror, disease or accidents. Whatever the cause, the reasoning, we all have lost and are familiar visitors to a cemetery, whether here or elsewhere.

Most of us have had similar questions posed to us as to ‘where were you when’ and I always remember September 11, 2001 as my nephew’s birthday. I’ve always felt a little sad for him on that day; as a child, he didn’t want ‘HIS’ birthday to be remembered as such a sad day for the rest of the world. He’s a young adult now, and working in a foreign country where our men and women put their lives on the line every day for the freedom to be buried wherever we choose; worship wherever we choose; attend school; vote; run for office; travel; live and be able to visit the ‘sanctuaries of peace and quiet’ in our own country. He isn’t alone, for his father and now, his younger brother are all in that same country, working for us, so that we can visit the cemeteries of today, and remember with honor, respect, and love those who are recorded there.