

# NHD

## NATIONAL HISTORY DAY®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MARANACOOK EDUCATOR'S YEAR OF RESEARCH PUBLISHED ON AWARD WINNING WEBSITE FOR TEACHERS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Maranacook Community High School teacher Mr. Shane Gower spent the last year researching the life of [Private First Class Harvey J. Madore](#) as part of the Understanding Sacrifice program. On Veteran's Day, Gower's eulogy for Private First Class Harvey J. Madore and lesson plan, titled [Analyzing How Sacrifice is Memorialized](#), will be published on [ABMCeducation.org](#). The 2016 *Understanding Sacrifice* program is a partnership between National History Day®, the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. The year-long professional development program is centered around Fallen Heroes of World War II who are buried or memorialized at an ABMC cemetery in Southern Europe or North Africa. In July 2016, Gower joined 17 other extraordinary educators as they traveled through southern Europe, walking in the footsteps of history. Using their research, teachers created lesson plans, Fallen Hero profiles, and eulogies now published on the award-winning [ABMCeducation.org](#).

Designed to reinvigorate the study of World War II in American classrooms, the lesson plans are multi-disciplinary. Using primary and secondary sources, videos, and hands-on activities, students are transported from the modern-day home front to the war front of the past. Gower's lesson plan is based upon a year of research using primary and secondary sources. Gower said, "Private First Class Harvey Madore is one of thousands of soldiers who fought in World War II. Many of these ordinary men and women will never be recorded in the history books. This lesson challenges students to best memorialize his sacrifice of Madore and the thousands of ordinary Americans who lost their lives in World War II." Accompanying the lesson plan is a Fallen Hero profile for Private First Class Harvey J. Madore. "Private First Class Madore never backed away from a challenge and made the ultimate sacrifice," said Gower. He hopes students will walk away with a vivid understanding of the high cost paid by all Americans during this war.

"This partnership with the American Battle Monuments Commission and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University has allowed us to take 18 extraordinary teachers to battlefields and memorials of southern Europe," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "Their unique experiences can now help teachers around the world bring history to life with the materials added to [ABMCeducation.org](#)."

Each lesson plan is based on solid scholarship, integrated with Common Core Standards, and makes use of interpretive materials provided by ABMC. They are accompanied by research about fallen heroes of World War II who are honored at ABMC cemeteries in southern Europe and northern Africa.

### **About National History Day®:**

National History Day® is a non-profit education organization based out of College Park,

MD. Established in 1973, National History Day® seeks to promote the learning and teaching of history through a variety of curricular and extra-curricular programs that engage over half a million secondary students around the world each year. More information is at [nhd.org](http://nhd.org).

**About ABMC:**

Established by Congress in 1923, the American Battle Monuments Commission commemorates the service, achievements, and sacrifice of U.S. armed forces. ABMC administers 25 overseas military cemeteries, and 27 memorials, monuments, and markers.

**About VA National Cemetery Administration:**

Established in 1974, VA's National Cemetery Administration (NCA) operates 134 national cemeteries and 33 soldiers' lots and monuments sites. More than 4.3 million Americans, including Veterans of every U.S. war and conflict, are buried in VA's national cemeteries. For Veterans not buried in a VA national cemetery, VA provides headstones, markers, or medallions for placement in private cemeteries around the world.

**About the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media:**

The Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University uses digital media and computer technology to democratize history— incorporating multiple voices, reaching diverse audiences, and encouraging popular participation in presenting and preserving the past. For more information, visit <http://rrchnm.org>.

**About National History Day in Maine:**

National History Day in Maine is dedicated to promoting the importance of historical research and analysis for all middle and high school students. It is co-organized by the Margaret Chase Smith Library and the University of Maine. This year-long educational program is made possible by the support of various organizations throughout the state. The major financial contributors are the Margaret Chase Smith Foundation, four units from UMaine, Orono (the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the College of Education and Human Development, the UMaine Humanities Center, and the Department of History), the Maine Masonic College, the Maine Humanities Council, and the Maine Historical Society.

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