

Opinion: Lives lost in fires should never be forgotten

By Carl Nolte, San Francisco Chronicle

All that is left now are ashes and ruins. The terrifying walls of fire and smoke that rolled over the region are gone. The North Bay fires have almost dropped out of the news. But 42 persons are known dead, and many are still missing. We may never know what happened to them.

It's important to remember the people who lost their lives in the fires. They were people we might well have known, maybe someone's mother, or an uncle who moved up north of the Golden Gate to places with the beautiful names: Mark West Springs, Journey's End, Redwood Valley, Silverado. They were all part of our family.

They say no one is really gone as long as someone remembers them. These are people we should not forget.

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