

On September 25, 2013, British artist Jamie, accompanied by numerous volunteers, took to the beaches of Normandy with rakes and stencils in hand to etch into the sand 9,000 silhouettes representing fallen people. Titled *The Fallen 9,000*, the piece is meant as a stark visual reminder of those who died during the D-Day beach landings at Arromanches-les-Bains on June 6th, 1944. The original team consisted of 60 volunteers, but as word spread, nearly 500 additional local residents arrived to help with the temporary installation that lasted only a few hours before being washed away by the tide.



# THE FALLEN 9,000






































Silent Heroes

Normandy, France

6 June 2005

I walked, today,

Though just in fantasy,

Along a stretch of beach

At Normandy.

The tide was busy with the sand,

The sky was standing clear,

And courage, long departed now,

Had left no sign of fear.

Inland, across the grassy fields,

Amid the well kept lawn,

"Old Glory" still draws duty;

I found her there, at dawn.

A quiet thought, a morning breeze,

As she began to stir . . .

I sensed the scope of sacrifice

Entrusted here, to her.

I strolled at ease among the rows,

Of crosses, placed with care,

And felt the tug upon my heart,

Of honor's presence there.

Then looking back I watched that flag

With rippling colors wave . . .

A proud salute to each white cross

That marked a silent hero's grave.

James L. from Oildale