

# Memory: Heroes Never Die



Memorial of fire fighters. Charles Henebry, Boston Walk, Apr 10, 2021, Boston University.



One side of the Sihang warehouse. Original.

Memory: something that you remember from the past.<sup>1</sup>The photo above is a memorial for the firefighters died in a catastrophic blaze 25 years earlier, with their names etched on these monuments for people to remember and pity. The hat and the clothes make people visualize these heroes who sacrificed their lives to protect people and end a disaster. Similarly, the photo below is a historical relic: the Sihang warehouse. The defense of Sihang warehouse was a desperate battle against the Japanese invaders, with only above 400 people defending the warehouse for 3 days. The two pictures all display a memorial of people who didn't escape but chose to face the danger in order to protect more people. The holes in the pictures are bullets holes remained, and the cracks and holes on the wall are because of Japanese canons. For sure, though the flesh of heroes died, their spirits exists forever and will not disappear as long as these memorial still standing there. The juxtaposition of these pictures signifies a common sentiment shared between the western and the eastern world: the memory and the affection for heroes who paved the road for our stable and beautiful lives now by sacrificing their own lives. Both pictures talk about heroes facing powerful enemies. The first is the brave firefighters against a blaze, and the second is brave soldiers against ruthless invaders. True heroes will never be forgotten, and heroes never die.

<sup>1</sup> "Meaning of memory in English," Cambridge Dictionary, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/memory>.