

# *ARLINGTON CEMETERY*

*Jeopardy*  
*Question:*

*On*  
*Jeopardy the final question was*  
*"How many steps does the guard*  
*take during his*  
*walk across the tomb of the*  
*Unknowns?"*

*All three contestants missed it!*

*This is really an awesome sight to watch if you've never had the chance.*  
*Fascinating. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*

*1.*  
*How many steps does the guard take during his*  
*walk across the tomb of the Unknowns*  
*and why?*

*21*  
*steps:*

*It  
alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which  
is the  
highest honor given any  
military or foreign  
dignitary.*

*2.  
How long does he hesitate after his about face  
to begin his return  
walk and why?*

*21  
seconds for the same reason as answer number  
1.*

*3.  
Why are his gloves wet?*

*His  
gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his  
grip on the rifle.*

*4.  
Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all  
the time*

*and, if  
not, why not?*

*He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.*

*5.  
How often are the guards changed?*

*Guards  
are changed every thirty minutes,  
twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a  
year.*

*6.  
What are the physical traits of the guard  
limited to?*

*For  
a  
person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he  
must be  
between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and  
his waist size cannot exceed 30.*

*They  
must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb,  
live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot  
drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of*

their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a

guard cannot talk to anyone nor  
watch TV.

All off duty time is spent studying the 175  
notable people laid  
to rest in

Arlington National Cemetery.

A guard must memorize who they are and where  
they are interred. Among the notables are:

President Taft,

Joe Lewis {the boxer}

Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most  
decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame.

Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.  
ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE  
UPON THEM.

In

2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was  
approaching Washington,  
DC, our

US Senate/House took 2 days  
off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC  
evening news, it was reported that because of  
the dangers from the  
hurricane, the military  
members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb  
of  
the Unknown Soldier were given permission  
to suspend the assignment. They  
respectfully declined the offer, "No way,

Sir!" Soaked to the skin,  
marching in the  
pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that  
guarding  
the Tomb was not just an assignment,

it was the highest honor that can be  
afforded  
to a service person. The tomb has been patrolled  
continuously,  
24/7, since 1930.

God  
Bless and keep them.

I'd be  
very proud if this email  
reached as many as possible. We can be very  
proud of our men  
and  
women  
in the service no matter where they serve.

**GOD BLESS AMERICA  
THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE WHO KEEP IT THAT  
WAY!**