More than 83,000 US service members remain missing in action, extending from present wars back to WWII. Over the past five years the US Government has invested considerable resources towards identifying these remains. However, the government has on average identified only 75 sets of remains per year.

The University of Wisconsin MIA Recovery & Identification Project aims to use interdisciplinary synergy and DNA technology to greatly enhance the pressing work of providing a name for every set of remains.

Mission: The mission of the Project is to recover and identify the remains of missing service members, to provide answers to the missing service members’ families, and to create a rich educational opportunity for our students while providing a public service of high calling to our community and nation.

Education: The Project will use an interdisciplinary approach and leverage the university’s expertise in History, Archeology, Forensic, and Genomics (DNA Analysis) to create an advanced method to seek, recover and identify missing US service members located all over the world.

Goal: A Name for Every Set of Remains. The Project complements the US Department of Defense’s efforts to recover and identify missing soldiers; in addition, the Project provides a world-class hands-on educational and public service experience for our students. Not only will our students help speed the resolution of these cases, but they will also experience history in a tangible way that provides a profound benefit to our society.

Funding: Funding is required to fuel this project. We are inviting funders committed to honoring those whose sacrifice helped ensure that our Nation would endure and live in liberty. Currently the University of Wisconsin has invested more than $200,000 towards the Project. With recent budget cuts to the UW System, any new initiative such as the UW’s MIA Recovery and Identification Project must find and enlist donors and sustaining supporters. Our goal to send the Project into action is $40,000.

Can you help launch this work?
Together we can start to speed the recovery and identification of hundreds, and then thousands, of our Missing In Action!

https://www.biotech.wisc.edu/missing-in-action