



COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

LOCAL 1168, AFL-CIO



Why Do We Wear Red On Thursdays???

In 1989, along with many of our Union brothers and sisters across the country, CWA was on strike against Bell Atlantic. It was a long 18-day strike but we stood strong and we still enjoy many of the protections that we achieved during that strike. A strike is never easy and it is always our last resort to protect our future.

One of our members walking the picket line was E. Gerald Horgan, Chief Steward, CWA Local 1103. On August 15, 1989, a Thursday morning, Gerry Horgan was killed. His death was a result from injuries he sustained when he was run down by a "scab" as he walked picket duty. The driver of the vehicle which killed him was a manager's daughter who was working as a "scab". In the long standing history of CWA, he is the only member to ever be killed on a picket line.

The idea started small, we asked all of our members to wear red on Thursday to show support for our fallen brother. But it quickly spread nationwide as a sign of solidarity every Thursday at CWA locations across the country a sea of red has become an ongoing sign of solidarity. Wearing red is a simple but effective way to show the employer that we stand together as a Union. We all have personal lives and beliefs but in the workplace every member needs to share the same goal, better wages, benefits, job security, and respect in the workplace.

No company that we represent can take away the wages and benefits that we have fought so hard to achieve when we stand together. Our solidarity will make these companies prosperous and provide good jobs for generations to come by only when we stand united. Solidarity is not just an idea. It is a belief that together we can protect and improve our way of life.

(Based on an article from CWA Local 7201 St. Paul & Winona Minnesota)

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