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Vigil honors homeless people who died this year in Portland

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PORTLAND, Maine --About 100 people turned out for a vigil in memory of the 29 homeless people who died this year in Maine's largest city.

To the sound of bagpipes, the group gathered in downtown Portland's Monument Square with candles in hand on the longest night of the year. Similar ceremonies were held around the country to mark National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day.

The 29 who died this year in Portland include at least nine who were homeless at the time of their death. The total number also includes people who had been homeless in the past and were still clients of social service agencies that work with the homeless.

Information from: Portland Press Herald, <http://www.pressherald.com> ■

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