Dignity Memorial®
Veterans Planning Guide
As a member of the United States Armed Forces, you served your country with courage and selflessness. Now let your funeral service honor the life you’ve lived.

The Dignity Memorial® network is the right choice for veterans, active military personnel and their families. With more than 1,900 licensed providers in North America, we serve more veterans than any other funeral service provider. We consider it an honor to serve the men and women who served our country.

Whether your need is now or you are making final arrangements in advance, you can count on your Dignity Memorial provider for professionalism, quality and service excellence.

When you choose a Dignity Memorial provider, you’ll receive the caring support and benefits we provide all our families, including:

- Child/grandchild protection plan
- Personal Planning Guide
- Bereavement travel assistance

As a veteran, you may qualify for burial benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). There are many misconceptions about these benefits, however, so it’s important to understand what they include and how to request them. For example, a recent survey shows that 60 percent of veterans mistakenly believe the VA pays funeral, cremation and cemetery expenses for all veterans. In truth, reimbursement of funeral or cremation expenses is limited, and certain restrictions apply.

To help you plan, the Dignity Memorial network created this guide to provide you with useful information about available benefits, military funeral honors, burial in a national or state cemetery, and the importance of prearranging. Also included are detachable forms to use when applying for membership in veteran service organizations and requesting military medals, a U.S. flag, Presidential Memorial certificates, military records and other VA burial benefits.

To complement your VA burial benefits, Dignity Memorial providers offer special pricing and benefits to eligible veterans.

To learn more and to find out if you and your family members qualify for this special pricing, please contact a Dignity Memorial provider. To locate one in your community, call 1-866-508-5834 or visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans and click on the Provider Locator link at the top of the screen.
10 Important Facts about Your VA Burial Benefits

As a veteran you may qualify for certain funeral benefits, but they don’t come automatically. In most cases someone must request them, which can be time-consuming and stressful for your family. Dignity Memorial professionals are available to help you prepare your request in advance.

1. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits do not cover all the funeral or cremation arrangements of honorably discharged veterans. Certain monetary, recognition and service benefits may be available. However, reimbursement for funeral or cremation service expenses is limited and usually only applies when:
   - The Veteran died because of a service-related disability, OR
   - The Veteran was receiving or was entitled to receive a VA pension or compensation at the time of death, OR
   - The Veteran died while hospitalized by VA, or while receiving care under contract at a non-VA facility

   Standard guidelines are provided as an overview, but only the VA can rule on your exact benefits. For exact eligibility requirements, please visit www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits.

2. You will need documentation to verify military service.
   You will normally be required to provide a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty document to verify military service. (Before 1959 it is commonly known as the Report of Separation which includes the documents WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 551, NAVMC 78PD or NAVCG 553. After 1950 it is known as the DD 214). All documents are forms of a veteran’s discharge papers.

3. A veteran’s family must request a United States flag.
   Upon the request of the family, a flag is provided by the VA at no cost to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased veteran. Generally, the flag is given to the next of kin. Only one flag may be provided per veteran. An Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes (VA Form 27-2008) must be submitted along with a copy of the veteran’s discharge papers. Flags may be obtained from VA regional offices and most U.S. Post Offices. Your Dignity Memorial provider will help your family request your flag.

4. Military funeral honors ceremonies must be scheduled in advance.
   Upon the family’s request, every eligible veteran may receive a military funeral honors ceremony, which includes the folding and presentation of the United States flag and the playing of “Taps”. The funeral director can request military funeral honors on behalf of the veteran’s family. Your Dignity Memorial provider works with various veterans organizations to assist in the provision of military funeral honors.

5. Veterans’ caskets are not free.
   As a standard policy, neither the VA nor the various branches of service provide a free casket for a deceased veteran, unless death occurs while on active duty. Through our unique relationship with American Legion Departments in specific states and with the Veterans of Foreign Wars nationally, Dignity Memorial providers offer caskets and other merchandise at a discounted price to their members.

6. A “Presidential Memorial Certificate” may be requested.
   Provided through a program initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy, an engraved paper “Presidential Memorial Certificate” signed by the current president is provided to families to honor the memory of honorably discharged, deceased veterans.

   Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail. Your local Dignity Memorial provider can assist your family in obtaining this certificate.

7. If you choose not to be buried in a VA national cemetery, monetary burial benefits are limited.
   Veterans buried in a private cemetery may be eligible to receive a partial reimbursement for their burial costs. If a death is service-related, benefits up to $2,000 may be paid for burial expenses. In order to receive burial and funeral benefits, as well as plot allowances, there are specific requirements that must be met such as:
   - The Veteran died because of a service-related disability, OR
   - The Veteran was receiving or was entitled to receive a VA pension or compensation at the time of death, OR
   - The Veteran died while hospitalized by the VA, or while receiving care under VA contract at a non-VA facility

   Standard guidelines are provided as an overview, but only the VA can rule on your exact benefits. For exact eligibility requirements, please visit www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits.

   For non-service related deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2018, VA will pay up to $780 toward burial and funeral expenses (if hospitalized by VA at time of death) and a $780 plot-interment allowance (if not buried in a national cemetery). For deaths on or after December 1, 2001, but before October 1, 2011, the VA will pay up to $300 toward burial and funeral expenses and a $300 plot-interment allowance. For deaths on or after April 1, 1988 but before October 1, 2011, the VA will pay $300 toward burial and funeral expenses (for Veterans hospitalized by the VA at the time of death).

   An annual increase in burial and plot allowances for deaths occurring after October 1, 2011 begins in fiscal year 2013 based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period.

   The final amounts will be determined by eligibility and are at the discretion of the VA.
In order to determine the final reimbursement amount, an Application for Burial Benefits (VA Form 21-530) must be submitted within two years from the date of the veteran’s permanent burial. If your family does not have the Form 21-530 at the time of death, your Dignity Memorial provider will help secure one.

There are eligibility requirements for burial in a VA national cemetery.

Any member of the Armed Forces who dies while on active duty or any veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable is entitled to burial in a VA national cemetery. Under certain conditions, the surviving spouse and minor children of an eligible person may also be entitled to this benefit. The surviving spouse or dependent of an eligible veteran or member of the Armed Forces may be eligible for interment in a national cemetery even if that veteran is not buried or memorialized in a national cemetery.

VA national cemeteries pre-need eligibility determinations

The VA now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need. Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery.

Interested individuals may submit VA Form 40-1000F, Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by: toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8259; email to Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

VA will review applications and provide written notice of its determination of eligibility. VA will save Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

We work with national cemeteries throughout the U.S. to provide funeral services for eligible veterans.

Burials in Arlington National Cemetery require a special knowledge of protocol and logistics. Our established firms in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area have knowledgeable staff with years of experience coordinating these ceremonies. To ensure the highest quality of service, Dignity Memorial providers will transfer responsibility for all Arlington National Cemetery services to these experienced professionals.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834

Dignity Memorial Veterans Planning Guide

About Your VA Benefits
10 Important Facts

About Your VA Benefits
Veterans Planning Guide:
Experienced professionals.

Military Funeral Honors

The military funeral honors ceremony is a final demonstration of our nation’s deep gratitude to those who have, in times of war and peace, faithfully served. The U.S. Department of Defense now provides, at no cost, the rendering of military funeral honors for an eligible veteran if requested by the family. Families of eligible veterans request funeral honors through their funeral director, who is responsible for arranging for the funeral honors detail.

Who is eligible?

- Military members on active duty
- Military retirees
- Members and former members of the Selected Reserve
- U.S. veterans of any war
- Other U.S. veterans who served at least one term of enlistment and separated under conditions other than dishonorable

Who is not eligible?

- Individuals discharged from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions
- Individuals sentenced to death or life imprisonment without parole for a state or federal capital offense

As provided by law, the honor guard detail shall consist of not less than two members of the Armed Forces, one of whom is a representative of the parent branch of service of the deceased veteran. The honor detail will, at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes the folding and presentation of the American flag to the next-of-kin and the playing of “Taps,” either by a bugler or by official electronic recording. The veteran’s parent service representative will present the flag.

Your Dignity Memorial provider can help your family request military funeral honors. The request form is included in this guide.

Verifying Eligibility

The preferred method for verifying eligibility is the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty. If the DD 214 is not available, any discharge document showing other than dishonorable service can be used.

To download forms and find more information, visit www.archives.gov/veterans/.

Questions?

Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
The Gift of Planning
Your Life, Your Legacy

Planning your final arrangements is a responsible decision and is one of the most caring gifts you can give your loved ones. By planning today, you can help to spare your family from difficult decisions at an emotional time and can make your own personal wishes known.

When you plan your funeral or cremation service in advance, you can learn about options and costs. You’ll be able to select funeral or cremation services meaningful to you and your family while properly honoring your military service.

Our arranged services are fully transferable and will be honored by any provider in the Dignity Memorial network should you move to a different area. This Dignity Memorial Planning Guide will help you begin the planning process, and we are here to answer any questions you and your loved ones might have.

Celebrating your life, honoring your wishes.

Every life is different, and your service should reflect that. In addition to incorporating religious or cultural traditions that are important to you, we’ll help you create a custom service that reflects your wishes and honors the life you lived.

Our in-house facilities, such as family and hospitality rooms, are designed to accommodate your special requests. We can arrange music, catering, flowers and other features that will ensure a personalized, fitting tribute. From time-honored traditions to personal photographs to favorite readings and special music, you can design a service that reflects your unique life.

Protection from rising costs.

Because government burial benefits for veterans are limited, you are likely to incur out-of-pocket expenses. By planning your funeral or cremation service today, you benefit from purchasing at today’s prices.

Planning now also helps you keep your financial commitment to a comfortable level while reducing the financial and emotional burden placed on your surviving family members.

The Dignity Difference

When you choose a Dignity Memorial provider, you’ll receive the compassionate care you expect from a locally operated establishment along with the value you deserve from the largest network of funeral homes and cemeteries in North America. Our commitment to you always includes these benefits and services, which only Dignity Memorial providers offer.

Bereavement Travel Services

On a moment’s notice, dedicated travel specialists will seek the best available airfares as well as hotel accommodations and car rentals for your family and friends to attend a funeral or memorial service. There is a nominal fee associated with the issuance of an airline ticket.

The Compassion Helpline

The Compassion Helpline offers families unlimited complimentary phone access to professional grief counselors for 13 months after services are provided by any Dignity Memorial provider throughout North America. In addition, anyone who attends a visitation, chapel or memorial service will have three months of access to the Compassion Helpline.

National Transferability

Should you move more than 75 miles from where your original arrangements were made, your funeral services will be honored by any Dignity Memorial provider in North America.

100% Service Guarantee

The Dignity Memorial network is the only family of funeral homes and cemeteries that measures the voice of every customer through our customer satisfaction program, administered by J.D. Power. We are fully committed to service beyond expectation and if there is anything we can do to better serve you before, during or after the service, let us know.

Dignity Memorial Guidance Series

Our guidance series lends support to those coping with grief. Professional advice and compassionate insight are available in an extensive selection of books, DVDs, CDs and in our online Resources Library.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
Supporting Our Communities

In addition to compassionately serving families during their time of need, we are committed to the communities where we live, work and raise our families. We proudly sponsor two community programs dedicated to honoring those who serve.

Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall

The Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall is a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. The faux-granite replica stands 240 feet long and eight feet high and is inscribed with the names of the 58,272 American men and women who gave their lives or are listed as missing in Vietnam. The Wall has traveled the U.S. in memory of those who have given their lives for freedom. After more than 20 years in circulation, the Wall has been retired. It is now permanently on display at the National Infantry Museum in Fort Benning, Ga., where it was formally dedicated on Veterans Day in 2017.

Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program

The Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program provides burial services for eligible homeless and indigent veterans to ensure they receive the honors in death that their service in life merited. The program has provided burial services for more than 1,700 homeless veterans.

Founded upon the belief that every veteran deserves a dignified and honorable burial, the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veterans Burial Program is a cooperative effort among Dignity Memorial funeral, cremation and cemetery service providers, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, local medical examiners, coroners, veterans advocates and veterans organizations.

Through the program, homeless and indigent veterans who have no family to claim them are identified and provided with a proper military burial. Dignity Memorial providers donate preparation of the body, transportation, clothing, casket and coordination of the funeral service. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs provides eligible veterans with opening and closing of the gravesite, a grave liner, a headstone or marker, a graveside ceremony and burial in a national cemetery.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
Membership Information

Your service organization membership can repay you and your family many times over.

The Dignity Memorial network is proud to partner with two leading veterans service organizations to bring significant savings and benefits to members in good standing.

As a member, you will be eligible to receive:

- A 10% savings* on all Dignity Memorial funeral or cremation services and merchandise offered by your local provider, plus:
  - Flag case specially designed for your government-issued United States flag
  - Aftercare® Planner that eases the burden on your loved ones by providing them with a system for completing and submitting all the paperwork involved in organizing and closing your estate
  - Compassion Helpline® offering trained grief counselors to assist your immediate family members whenever they need support and insight, for 13 months after services are provided
  - Bereavement travel program and grief management materials
  - Dignity Memorial 100% service guarantee that ensures your family’s complete satisfaction with the services provided

*10% average does not apply to cash advance items and void where prohibited by law. On already discounted Dignity Memorial plans, eligible veterans are entitled to the greater of the two discounts. Credit and free exclusive benefits not available to family members other than spouse.
American Legion
Membership Information

Many are called, but few are chosen. That applies to many things in life. As a dedicated American, you chose to serve your country when you joined the military.

For those of us who have served in time of war, there is a bond that cannot be broken. Our lives and our backgrounds can be as different as night and day, but we are joined by battle, by service and by experiences that are uniquely ours. We are joined by an organization founded to serve us only with privileges and benefits we have earned with blood, sweat and courage.

In 1919, the United States Congress approved the charter of the American Legion as an organization of veterans. Some American Legion members served overseas during wartime while others served stateside. Yet all served during periods defined by Congress as wartime service. The support your American Legion membership gives to our brave young men and women on active duty is paramount.

Membership entitlements, active-duty personnel and families to:
- Professional help in obtaining full medical, educational, and insurance benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Assistance in preparing VA claims and getting accurate information concerning financial services
- Professional representation of veterans interests in Congress by staff in Washington, D.C., who are fighting for legislation that protects the benefits of all veterans and their families
- The American Legion is an influential and effective advocate for veterans. Your membership will strengthen the fight for better active-duty pay, improved housing for active-duty families, and help ensure that the VA’s medical system properly cares for the sick and wounded returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Membership in the American Legion also gives you added savings, discounts and family-protection benefits including:
- Job placement assistance
- A full year’s subscription to the monthly American Legion magazine
- Discount rates on thousands of hotels and motels, car rentals, and moving expenses
- Full eligibility to participate in American Legion members-only insurance plans
- Additional discounts through the American Legion’s prescription drug plan

Legionnaires are also heavily involved with community activities ranging from hospital services and blood drives to youth programs such as Boy Scouts, American Legion Baseball, scholarships and the annual American Legion Boys State/Boys Nation programs.

More important than material benefits, your membership in the American Legion honors the other men and women who have sacrificed so much for our country. It’s one of the best ways to help preserve programs that benefit you, our nation and our fellow veterans.

The American Legion is veterans just like you, nearly three million strong, who care about America, veterans, their families and our nation’s youth. The Legion is a powerful voice in Washington dedicated to preserving the rights we’ve all earned—and were promised—by service to our nation in uniform.

Membership brings an impressive array of benefits. The American Legion is always there for you and your family—in Washington and at nearly 15,000 local posts throughout America and abroad. Just like you, the Legion is “Still Serving America!”

Please see page 19 for the American Legion membership application form or visit: http://www.legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/mbrapp.pdf

Membership Eligibility
You can become a member of the American Legion if you are on active duty today, serving honorably anywhere in the world, or have served honorably during any eligible war era:
- April 6, 1917 — November 11, 1918 (World War I)
- December 7, 1941 — December 31, 1946 (World War II)
- June 25, 1950 — January 31, 1955 (Korean War)
- February 28, 1961 — May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)
- August 24, 1982 — July 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)
- December 20, 1989 — January 31, 1990 (Panama)
- August 2, 1990 — today (Gulf War/Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq)

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Membership Information

Originally founded in 1899 as the American Veterans of Foreign Service, the VFW continues to be a voice for veterans and currently deployed members of our Armed Forces and their families.

About The VFW
There are nearly 1.6 million members of the VFW and its auxiliaries in more than 6,200 VFW Posts around the world. It is at heart an organization dedicated to providing a place for all of those who have sacrificed in our nation’s conflicts abroad. While the VFW is a national organization, it expresses this dedication through local Posts and programs that support veterans, service members and their families.

VFW Mission
To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

Veteran Advocacy:
Full-Time Support for Veterans
National Veterans Service: The VFW works for veterans on Capitol Hill. The VFW Washington, D.C. office has a fulltime staff to monitor, lobby and report on legislation that directly impacts the veteran community.

Support to Troops and Families:
Answering the Call to Assist Our Nation’s Defenders
Scholarship
Help A Hero Scholarships — developed in conjunction with Sport Clips — help veterans and service members continue their education without incurring excessive student loan debt with awards of $5,000.

vFW Unmet Needs helps service members and their families who face unexpected financial difficulties, often as a result of unexpected or extended deployments. Military families can apply for grants of up to $1,500 to cope financially and get through tough times.

VFW Military Assistance Program works to give troops and military families the help they need during long deployments and when they return. The program sponsors morale-boosting sendoffs and homecomings for troops and their families. These events—which often include free entertainment, food and other festivities—are held at military bases across the nation as well as at local VFW Posts.

Community Programs: Giving Back to Towns and Neighborhoods
The VFW promotes programs that help build local communities. Though it maintains a national presence, the VFW is a grassroots organization. A VFW Post is not a building—it is the people inside. VFW programs are geared toward developing tomorrow’s leaders and building—it is the people inside. VFW programs are geared toward developing tomorrow’s leaders and community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community.

Community service takes many forms from volunteering at local VA hospitals to volunteering in community clean-ups. VFW members volunteer 8.8 million hours annually in their communities. The VFW also offers recognition to leaders in the community. These awards go to teachers, police officers, firefighters, and emergency response personnel who have distinguished themselves through their dedication and service.

Discharges during and immediately after World War II have a section on the back listing earned medals and decorations. Persons discharged later received a DD-214, Report of Separation form, which has a space showing medals and decorations.

Lost separation documents can be replaced by completing and submitting Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records, included in this Veterans Planning Guide. Contact the VFW national membership department if you feel you have qualifying experience not listed.

Please see page 21 for the VFW membership application form or apply online: www.vfw.org/join

VFW Membership Eligibility
There are three requirements for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States:

- U.S. citizenship
- Honorable military service; and
- Service entitling the applicant to the award of a recognized campaign medal or as set forth in the Congressional Charter and/or VFW bylaws.

Checking eligibility is relatively simple assuming the first two requirements are met. An applicant must have served overseas and earned a campaign medal, service medal or insignia recognized by the VFW. (The only exceptions are a combat action ribbon or imminent danger pay for service in Korea after June 30, 1949.)

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There are three qualifiers for membership in the VFW, as set out in our By-Laws. An individual must meet all three in order to become a member. They are as follows:

1: Citizenship – must be a U.S. citizen or U.S. National.

2: Honorable Service – must have served in the Armed Forces of the United States and either received a discharge of Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions) or be currently serving.

3: Service in a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters. This can be proven by any of the following:
   - An authorized campaign medal (see other side for a list of qualifying medals and badges)
   - Receipt of Hostile Fire Pay or Imminent Danger Pay (verified by a military pay statement)
   - Service in Korea for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days

This information is usually available through a veteran's DD-214. If other information is needed or if a veteran's DD-214 is not complete, they can contact the National Personnel Records Center at 314-801-0800 or online at http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/ to request more information.

It is imperative that we verify the eligibility of every member that signs up for the VFW, not only to comply with our By-Laws but also to maintain the integrity of the organization. If you have questions concerning membership eligibility, please contact the National Headquarters at 1-888-JOIN-VFW or via email at membership@vfw.org.

For further information on VFW eligibility, please consult Section 101 of the VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
The American Legion Membership Application

YES! I’ll help my fellow veterans by becoming a member of The American Legion. I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked below and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably. Please send my current membership card and my free “Branch of Service” lapel pin.

Please return completed application to:

The American Legion
Remittance Processing
P.O. Box 7017
Indianapolis, IN 46207

Please check method of payment:
- My $25.00 check or money order is enclosed.
- Bill my credit card for $25.00. (See box at right)

Please check applicable “Dates of Service” and “Branch of Service”:

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<tr>
<th>DATES OF SERVICE</th>
<th>BRANCH OF SERVICE</th>
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<tr>
<td>AUG. 2, 1990 – OPEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUG. 24, 1982 – JUL. 31, 1994</td>
<td>US AIR FORCE</td>
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<td>APR. 6, 1917 – MAR 31, 1918</td>
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<td>U.S. MERCHANT MARINE — DEC. 7, 1941 – DEC. 31, 1946</td>
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Please tell us how/where you heard about The American Legion and if you have any questions:

JUNE 2018 - NET

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
American Legion Membership Mail-In Application

[Image]

Cardholder's Name: _______________________________ Amount to be charged: $_____________________

I attest that by forwarding this application that I am a citizen of the United States of America and that I have confirmed my eligibility for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States to verify my eligibility for membership.

Signature of Applicant: _______________________________ Date: _______________________________

Mail-in to: Membership Department, VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111

Questions? Call (888) JOIN-VFW (888-564-6839) or email us at membership@vfw.org

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Please return completed application to:

VFW Membership
Mail-In Application

☐ Yes! I want to join the VFW as a member-at-large and continue serving my country, my community and my fellow man.

Please enter your personal information

Name: _______________________________ _______________________________ _______________________________

Address: _______________________________ _______________________________ _______________________________

City: _______________________________ State: _______________________________ Zip: _______________________________

Social Security #: _______________________________

E-mail: _______________________________ Phone: _______________________________

Birthdate: _______________________________ Age as of Dec. 31st

Service Information

Eligibility (choose all that apply)

☐ Army
☐ Marine Corps
☐ Navy
☐ Air Force
☐ Coast Guard

☐ Korean War
☐ Iraq
☐ Vietnam
☐ Persian Gulf War
☐ Kosovo

LIFE MEMBERSHIP (installment plan)

Please send me an invoice for my 11 monthly installments towards Life Membership.

☐ I would like to enroll in the Automatic Payment Plan.

☐ LIFE MEMBERSHIP (one-time)

☐ LIFE MEMBERSHIP (installment plan)

☐ Please send me an invoice for my 11 monthly installments towards Life Membership.

☐ I would like to enroll in the Automatic Payment Plan.

Service Information

Check/Money Order

Expiration Date:

☐ Check/Money Order
☐ Mastercard
☐ Visa
☐ Discover
☐ American Express

Amount to be charged: $_____________________

Life Membership Fee Schedule

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN

Annual fee: $45.00

Delinquencies will be handled as follows:

Life Membership Installment Plan Terms and Conditions: The VFW Life Membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making an initial payment of $45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an Annual Membership card at the time of enrollment. The member may elect to receive a monthly statement by mail or may set up a payment profile to receive the monthly payment automatically using a credit/debit card or bank account. If a return occurs, the member will be billed for the returned payment. The Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant’s age on December 31 of the year in which the application is submitted. Delinquencies will be handled as follows:

☐ Up to 30 days – delinquency can be corrected through make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward.

☐ More than 90 days – transaction is closed and full membership fee is due.

☐ Amount of any make up payment(s) plus and interest imposed toward

☐ More than 120 days – member is dropped from the installment plan, all monthly payments made to date, are applied to future years' annual dues.

Interest will be charged at the rate of one-half percent (0.5%) per month, beginning the month after the delinquency.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-800-558-6844

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE SCHEDULE

Age as of Dec. 31st

THROUGH AGE 30

31-40

41-50

51-60

61-70

71-80

81 and over

First payment

$45.00

$45.00

$45.00

$45.00

$45.00

$45.00

$45.00

Monthly payments

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

TOTAL DUES

$385.00

$465.00

$545.00

$625.00

$705.00

$785.00

$865.00

Annual Dues

$385.00

$465.00

$545.00

$625.00

$705.00

$785.00

$865.00

Monthly Payments

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

Monthly Installment

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

$35.00

One-Time Payment

$385.00

$465.00

$545.00

$625.00

$705.00

$785.00

$865.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN

Annual Dues:

Monthly Payments:

One-Time Payment:

Life Membership Installment Plan Terms and Conditions: The VFW Life Membership installment plan allows any VFW member/applicant to purchase a Life Membership by making an initial payment of $45.00 and (11) monthly payments. The member will be issued an Annual Membership card at the time of enrollment. The member may elect to receive a monthly statement by mail or may set up a payment profile to receive the monthly payment automatically using a credit/debit card or bank account. If a return occurs, the member will be billed for the returned payment. The Life Membership fee is determined from the schedule using the applicant’s age on December 31 of the year in which the application is submitted. Delinquencies will be handled as follows:

☐ Up to 30 days – delinquency can be corrected through make up payment(s) or plan end date pushed forward.

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Interest will be charged at the rate of one-half percent (0.5%) per month, beginning the month after the delinquency.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-800-558-6844

American Legion Membership Mail-In Application
To obtain initial issue or replacement medals you must submit a written request for the medals. Complete this form and mail to the National Personnel Records Center, 1 Archives Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138.

IF YOU ARE REQUESTING MEDALS FOR YOURSELF, COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

Print the name of the veteran who earned the medals: ________________________________________________
I request that I be issued all award emblems I am entitled to.
☐ Attached is a copy of my separation document (DD 214 or equivalent).
☐ In lieu of my separation document I am providing the following information:
Branch of service: ☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Marines ☐ Coast Guard
Approximate date of release from service: ________________
My Social Security number is: ______________________________________________________________________
My service number was: ___________________________________________________________________________
Date and place of birth: ____________________________________________________________________________
Name: Last ________________________ First __________________ M.I. ___________________________________
Mailing address: __________________________________________________________________________________
Contact information: Phone ________________________ Email  _________________________________________
Signature _________________________________________________ Date  _________________________________

IF YOU ARE NEXT-OF-KIN REQUESTING MEDALS, COMPLETE THIS SECTION.

Your relationship to the veteran: ☐ Parent ☐ Spouse ☐ Son/daughter ☐ Other  ___________________________________________
Your contact information: Phone ___________________ Email  ___________________________________________
Your mailing address: ________________________________________________________________________________
☐ Attached is a copy of the separation document (DD 214 or equivalent).
☐ In lieu of the separation document I am providing the following information:
Branch of service: ☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Marines ☐ Coast Guard
Approximate date of release from service: ___________________________________________________________
Please complete the following information about the veteran:
Name: Last _________________________________________ First _______________________ M.I. _____________
Social Security number: ____________________________________________________________________________
Service number: __________________________________________________________________________________
Date of death: ____________________________________________________________________________________
Date and place of birth: ____________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________________________

Other options:
1) You may also complete Standard Form 180 and in Section II, check the box labeled “other” and state you request issuance of awards.
2) You may also request military medals online at www.archives.gov

Guide to writing for your Military Medals

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
Military Funeral Honors
Information Sheet

This information confirms the telephone conversation on _____________________________
between ________________________________ and ____________________________________.

SECTION I: FUNERAL HOME INFORMATION

Funeral Home Name                                                                                      Phone Number

Address                                                                                                           City, State, Zip

SECTION II: MILITARY CONTACT INFORMATION

Branch                                                Phone Number                                    Fax

Address                                                                                                           City, State, Zip

SECTION III: DECEASED INFORMATION (Obtained from discharge papers)
In accordance with the Department of Defense program “Honoring Those Who Served,” please provide the
appropriate military funeral honors ceremony on behalf of the following deceased veteran:

Name                                                                                                       Date of Death

Branch of Service                           Social Security No.                          Service No.                                     Grade or Rank

Date of Entry                                   Date of Separation                          Phone

Address                                                                                                           City, State, Zip

Military Status: (Check One)  □ Veteran Retired  □ Veteran  □ Medal of Honor Recipient  □ General Officer

Attached is a copy of (Check One)  □ DD Form 214 (preferred) Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
or  □ Other discharge document showing other than dishonorable service

SECTION IV: CEREMONY INFORMATION

Date of Ceremony            Time to Report           Report to:                                   Location Name                             Phone

Address                                                                                                          City, State, Zip

Military Funeral Honors requested by:  _________________________     _____________________________

Next of Kin - Signature                            Next of Kin - Print Name

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE REQUEST FORM

RESPONDENT BURDEN: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average three minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the necessary data, and complete and review the collection of information. The obligation to respond is voluntary and not required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for the Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) Program is 38 U.S.C. 112. The information requested is approved under OMB Control Number 2900-0567, and is necessary to allow eligible recipients (next of kin, other relatives or friends) to request PMC.

The National Cemetery Administration does not give, sell or transfer any personal information outside of the agency. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. Responding to this collection is voluntary. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to VA Clearance Officer (005G2), 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420. SEND COMMENTS ONLY. Please do not send applications for benefits to this address.

SECTION I - INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING VA FORM 40-0247, PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE REQUEST FORM

Military/Discharge Documents: VA recommends that you attach photocopies of readily available supporting documents so that we can make the determination quickly. Documents may include the most recent discharge document (DD Form 214) showing active duty service records other than for training purposes, or active duty for a minimum of 24 continuous months for enlisted Servicemembers after September 7, 1980; for officers, after October 16, 1981, or the full period for which the person was called to active duty. If you are unable to locate copies of military records, apply anyway, as VA will attempt to obtain records necessary to make a determination.

Name of Veteran: DO NOT include nicknames, military rank or civilian title(s).

Name and Mailing Address of Person Requesting Certificate: Provide the full name and complete mailing address to avoid delays in delivery.

We strongly recommend you complete this form online (http://www.cem.va.gov/pmc.asp) and print and sign before you submit your request.

Complete a new VA Form 40-0247 for each additional address where certificates will be mailed to.

Privacy Act Information: VA considers the responses you submit confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). VA may only disclose this information outside the VA if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 175VA41A published in the Federal Register.

SECTION II - VETERAN/SERVICEMEMBER INFORMATION

1. NAME OF VETERAN (First, Middle, Last)
2. VETERAN SSN OR SERVICE NUMBER OR VA FILE NUMBER (Required)

SECTION III - PERSON REQUESTING CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

3. NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING CERTIFICATE
4. MAILING ADDRESS OF PERSON REQUESTING CERTIFICATE
5. HOME OR WORK TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code)
6. REQUESTOR EMAIL ADDRESS
7. NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES REQUESTED

SECTION IV - CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

CERTIFICATION: I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the decedent has never committed a serious crime, such as murder or other offense that could have resulted in imprisonment for life, has never been convicted of a serious crime, and has never been convicted of a sexual offense for which he or she was sentenced to a minimum of life imprisonment.

8. SIGNATURE OF PERSON REQUESTING CERTIFICATE (Required)

SECTION V - MAILING ADDRESS AND FAX NUMBER

PLEASE SEND ANY MILITARY DOCUMENTS AND SIGNED FORM TO:
Presidential Memorial Certificates (41B3)
National Cemetery Administration
5109 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903

Or Fax To: 1 (800) 455-7143

(The blocks below are for official use only)
9. CASE MANAGER NAME
10. PMC ID NUMBER
11. CASE MANAGER EMAIL

VA FORM 40-0247
NOV 2017

ALL VERSIONS OF THIS FORM DATED BEFORE MAY 2013 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED OR PROCESSED.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
History
This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

Administration
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the current President’s signature expressing the country’s grateful recognition of the Veteran’s service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligibility
Eligible recipients include the next of kin and loved ones of honorably discharged deceased Veterans. More than one certificate may be provided.

Application
Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail or toll-free fax. Requests cannot be sent via email. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the Veteran’s discharge and death certificate to verify eligibility, as we cannot process any request without proof of honorable military service. Please submit copies only, as we will not return original documents.

Check the Status
If you have already requested a PMC more than sixteen (16) weeks ago and have not received it yet, please call 1-202-565-4964 to find out the status of your request. Please do not send a second application unless we request you to do so. Veteran Service Officers and Funeral Homes: If you have questions about the status of a request please contact us at 1-202-565-4964. You may also send request for status by email to pmc@va.gov. Our application form (VA Form 40-0247) is shown above. Please save this form to your computer and make as many copies as you might need.

Instructions for Completing Application for Burial Benefits
Under 38 U.S.C., Chapter 23

IMPORTANT - READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION: The responses you submit are considered confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). They may be disclosed outside the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) only if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 58VA21/22/26, Compensation, Pension, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Records – VA, published in the Federal Register. The requested information is considered relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law and is required to obtain benefits. Information submitted is subject to verification through computer matching programs with other agencies.

RESPONDENT BURDEN: We need this information to determine your eligibility to burial benefits. Title 38, United States Code, allows us to ask for this information. We estimate that you will need an average of 15 minutes to review the instructions, find the information, and complete this form. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless a valid OMB control number is displayed. Valid OMB control numbers can be located on the OMB Internet Page at www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. If desired, you can call 1-800-827-1000 to get information on where to send comments or suggestions about this form.

1. GENERAL
   a. ELIGIBILITY - NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED
      (1) NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED BURIAL ALLOWANCE - A one-time payment for a veteran who was receiving VA pension or disability compensation; would have been receiving disability compensation but for the receipt of military retired pay, or had an eligible pending claim at the time of death.
      (2) SERVICE-CONNECTED BURIAL ALLOWANCE - A one-time payment for a veteran who was rated totally disabled for a service-connected disability or disabilities; excluding individual unemployability, or who died of a service-connected disability.
      (3) VA MEDICAL CENTER DEATH BURIAL ALLOWANCE - A one-time payment for a veteran whose death was not service-connected and who died while hospitalized by VA.
   b. BURIAL ALLOWANCE - A one-time benefit payment payable toward the expenses of the funeral and burial of the veteran's remains. Burial includes all legal methods of disposing of the veteran's remains including, but not limited to, cremation, burial at sea, and medical school donation.
   c. PLOT OR INTERMENT ALLOWANCE - A one-time benefit payment payable toward:
      (1) Expenses incurred for the plot or interment if burial was not in a national cemetery or other cemetery under the jurisdiction of the United States; OR
      (2) Expenses payable to a State (or political subdivision of a State) if the veteran died from non-service-connected causes and was buried in a State-owned cemetery or section used solely for the remains of persons eligible for burial in a national cemetery.
      "Plot" means the final disposition site of the remains, whether it is a grave, mausoleum vault, columbarium niche, or similar place. "Interment" means the burial of casketed remains in the ground or the placement of cremated remains into a columbarium niche.
   d. TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES - The cost of transporting the body to the place of burial may be paid in addition to the burial allowance when:
      (1) The veteran died of a service-connected disability or had a compensable service-connected disability and burial is in a national cemetery; OR
      (2) The veteran died while in a hospital, domiciliary or nursing home to which he/she had been properly admitted under authority of VA; OR
      (3) The veteran died en route while traveling under prior authorization of VA for the purpose of examination, treatment; OR
      (4) The veteran’s remains are unclaimed and burial is in a national cemetery.

VA FORM
APR 2017
21P-530
SUPERSEDES VA FORM 21P-530, JUN 2015, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.

Questions? Visit www.DignityMemorial.com/Veterans or call 1-866-508-5834
2. WHO SHOULD FILE A CLAIM - VA may grant a claim that any eligible person files. Upon death of the veteran, VA will pay the first living person to file a claim of those listed below:

(1) The veteran's surviving spouse; OR
(2) The survivor of a legal union* between the deceased veteran and the survivor; OR
(3) The veteran's children, regardless of age; OR
(4) The veteran's parents or the surviving parent; OR
(5) The executor or administrator of the deceased veteran's estate, or person acting for the deceased veteran's estate.

*For purposes of this application, legal union means a formal relationship between the veteran and the survivor that existed on the date of the veteran's death, was recognized under the law of the State in which the couple formalized the relationship, and was evidenced by the State's issuance of documentation memorializing the relationship.

If the veteran's remains are unclaimed, VA will pay the person or entity that provided burial services for the remains of an unclaimed veteran.

3. TIME LIMIT FOR FILING A CLAIM - A claim for non-service-connected burial allowance must be filed with VA within 2 years after the date of the veteran's permanent burial or cremation. If a veteran's discharge was corrected after death to "Under Conditions Other Than Dishonorable," the claim must be filed within 2 years after the date of correction. There is no time limit for the service-connected burial allowance, plot or interment allowance, VA hospitalization death burial allowance, or reimbursement of transportation expenses.

4. COMPLETING CLAIM BY A FIRM OR STATE AGENCY - The claim must be executed in the full name of the firm or State agency, and show the official position or connection of the individual who signs on its behalf.

5. PROOF OF DEATH TO ACCOMPANY CLAIM - Death in a government institution does not need to be proven. In other cases, the claimant must forward a copy of the public record of death. If proof has previously been furnished VA, it need not be submitted again.

6. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT MUST ACCOMPANY TRANSPORTATION CLAIMS - If transported by common carrier, a receipt must accompany the claim. All receipts for transportation charges should show the name of the veteran, the name of the person who paid, and the amount of the charges. The itemized statement of account should show the charges made for transportation. Failure to itemize charges may result in delay or payment of a lesser amount.

7. SERVICE RECORD - The original or certified copy of the veteran's service separation document (DD214 or equivalent) which contains information as to the length, time, and character of service will permit prompt processing.

8. TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE - You can call us toll-free within the U.S. by dialing 1-800-827-1000. If you are located in the local dialing area of a VA regional office, you can also call us by checking your local telephone directory. For the hearing impaired, our TDD number is 711.

9. WHERE DO I MAIL MY COMPLETED APPLICATION? - You should mail your application to the VA regional office located in your state. You can obtain the mailing address for VA regional offices by accessing the VA Internet web site at www.va.gov/directory. The address is also located in the government pages of your telephone book under "United States Government, Veterans."

### PART I - PERSONAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF DECEASED VETERAN'S NAME</th>
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<tr>
<th>2. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER</th>
<th>3. VA FILE NUMBER</th>
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### CLAIMANT'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. CLAIMANT'S NAME (First, middle initial, last)</th>
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<tr>
<th>5. CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS (Number and street or rural route, P.O. Box, City, State, ZIP Code and Country)</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>6. PREFERRED TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include Area Code)</th>
<th>7. PREFERRED E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
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<tr>
<th>8. RELATIONSHIP OF CLAIMANT TO DECEASED VETERAN (Check one)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPOUSE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EXECUTOR/ADMINISTRATOR OF ESTATE OR PERSON ACTING FOR THE ESTATE</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHILD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER (Specify)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARENT</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### PART II - INFORMATION REGARDING VETERAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9A. DATE OF BIRTH</th>
<th>9B. PLACE OF BIRTH</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10A. DATE OF DEATH</th>
<th>10B. PLACE OF DEATH</th>
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</table>

### SERVICE INFORMATION (The following information should be furnished for the periods of the veteran's active service)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>11A. ENTERED SERVICE</th>
<th>11B. SERVICE NUMBER</th>
<th>11C. SEPARATED FROM SERVICE</th>
<th>11D. GRADE, RANK, OR RATING, ORGANIZATION AND BRANCH OF SERVICE</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>12. IF VETERAN SERVED UNDER NAME OTHER THAN THAT SHOWN IN ITEM 1, GIVE FULL NAME AND SERVICE RENDERED UNDER THAT NAME</th>
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</table>
If you are the deceased veteran's spouse, did you previously receive a VA-burial allowance?

YES

NO

If you are the deceased veteran's spouse, are you receiving burial benefits for the unmarked remains of a veteran?

YES

NO

The Department of Veterans Affairs will furnish, upon request, a Government headstone or marker at the expense of the United States for the unmarked graves of certain individuals eligible for burial in a national cemetery, but not buried there. These individuals may include any veterans with an other than dishonorable discharge who dies:

(a) after active duty in the Armed Forces and who served during World War II; or

(b) after active duty in the Armed Forces, other than World War II, and who served either on active duty for a period of not less than 17 consecutive days or on active duty for training, or who was entitled to retired pay or a severance pay for such service.

I CERTIFY THAT the foregoing statements made in connection with this application on account of the named veteran are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(1) If you are the deceased veteran's spouse, complete Item 18.

(2) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or a memorial home, complete Item 19.

(3) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(4) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(5) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(6) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(7) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(8) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(9) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(10) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(11) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(12) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(13) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(14) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(15) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(16) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(17) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(18) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(19) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(20) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(21) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(22) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(23) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(24) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(25) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(26) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(27) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(28) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(29) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(30) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

NOTE: If claimant signed above using an “X”, signature must be witnessed by two persons to whom the person making the statement is personally known, and the signatures and addresses of each witness must be shown below.

WITNESS TO SIGNATURE IF MADE BY “X”

(1) If you are the deceased veteran's spouse, complete Item 19.

(2) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(3) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(4) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

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(12) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(13) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(14) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(15) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(16) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(17) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

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(22) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(23) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(24) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(25) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(26) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(27) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(28) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(29) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

(30) If you are an official of a state veterans' home or memorial home, complete Item 19.

HOW TO SUBMIT A CLAIM

MAIL claims to: Memorial Products Service (4IB)
Department of Veterans Affairs
515 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903

SIGNATURES REQUIRED - The applicant signs in block 23, the person agreeing to accept delivery (consignee) in block 28, and the cemetery or other responsible official in block 30. If there is no official on duty at the cemetery, the signature listed in block 27 is required. Entries of “None,” “Not Applicable,” or “N/A” will not be accepted. State Veterans Cemeteries are not required to complete blocks 25, 26, 27, 28 or 29.

2. Buddy Check - Any applicant filling out this form, you may contact our Applicant Assistance Unit toll free at: 1-800-679-0475, or via e-mail at: mps.headstones@va.gov.

If additional assistance is needed to complete this claim, contact the nearest VA Regional Office, national cemetery, or a local veterans’ organization. No fee shall be paid in connection with the preparation of this claim. Use Block 31 for any clarification or other information you wish to provide.

TRANSPORTATION AND DELIVERY OF MARKER - The headstone or marker is shipped without charge to the consignee designated in block 25 of the claim. To enable the driver the truck or trailer to be loaded, the marker equipment must be ready to be loaded. It is the responsibility of the consignee to forward the marker from the truck. Deliveries will not be made to a Post Office Box.

You must provide the full delivery address and telephone number of the consignee. Please explain in block 33 if not a home.

If the consignee provided a telephone number, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee. If the telephone number is not a home, you will be able to contact the consignee.

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET FOR YOUR RECORDS.

ALL PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE.
ILLUSTRATIONS OF STANDARD GOVERNMENT HEADSTONES AND MARKERS

UPRIGHT HEADSTONE
WHITE MARBLE (G) OR LIGHT GRAY GRANITE (V)

This headstone is 42 inches long, 13 inches wide and 4 inches thick. Weight is approximately 3 pounds. Variations may occur in stone color, and the marble may contain light to moderate veining.

BRONZE Niche (Z)

This niche marker is 8-1/2 inches long, 5-1/2 inches wide, with 7/16 inch rise. Weight is approximately 3 pounds; mounting bolts and washers are furnished with the marker. Used for columbarium or mausoleum interment. Also provided to supplement a privately-purchased headstone or marker for eligible Veterans who died on or after November 1, 1990 and are buried in a private cemetery.

FLAT MARKERS
BRONZE (B)

This grave marker is 24 inches long, 12 inches wide, with 3/4 inch rise. Weight is approximately 18 pounds. Anchor bolts, nuts and washers for fastening to a base are furnished with the marker. The base is not furnished by the Government.

LIGHT GRAY GRANITE (G) OR WHITE MARBLE (F)

This grave marker is 24 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 4 inches thick. Weight is approximately 130 pounds. Variations may occur in stone color; the marble may contain light to moderate veining.

SMALL FLAT GRANITE (L)

This grave marker is 18 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 3 inches thick. Weight is approximately 70 pounds. Variations may occur in stone color.

NOTE: Historic headstones (Prior to World War I) - In addition to the headstone and markers pictured, two special styles of upright headstones are available for those who served with Union Forces during the Civil War or for those who served in the Spanish-American War. Another style headstone is available for those who served with the Confederate States of America during the Civil War. Requests for these special styles should be made in block 33 of the claim. It is necessary to submit detailed documentation that supports eligibility. Inscriptions on these headstone types are intentionally limited to assure historic accuracy. For example, only rank above 'Private' was historically authorized; emblems of belief and the words 'Civil War' are not authorized.

INSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Mandatory Items - Information in English about the decedent (provided by an authorized applicant). Such items are: Legal Name, Branch of Service, Year of Birth, Year of Death, and for State Veterans and National Cemeteries only, the section and grave number. Branches of Service are: U.S. Army (USA), U.S. Navy (USN), U.S. Air Force (USAF), U.S. Marine Corps (USMC), U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), U.S. Army Forces (USAFA), and other parent organizations authorized for certain periods of time; and special units such as Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP), U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Different examples of inscription formats are illustrated above. More than one branch of service is permitted, subject to space availability. The phrase "IN MEMORY OF" is a mandatory inscription on all memorial headstones and markers, as required under 38 CFR 38.630(c). The word "OUR BELOVED POPPY" may contain light to moderate veining.

In addition to the headstone and markers pictured, two special styles of upright headstones are available for those who served with Union Forces during the Civil War or for those who served in the Spanish-American War. Another style headstone is available for those who served with the Confederate States of America during the Civil War. Requests for these special styles should be made in block 33 of the claim. It is necessary to submit detailed documentation that supports eligibility. Inscriptions on these headstone types are intentionally limited to assure historic accuracy. For example, only rank above 'Private' was historically authorized; emblems of belief and the words 'Civil War' are not authorized.

Optional Items - Information in English about the decedent (provided by an authorized applicant). Optional items are in bold outlines, which includes month and day of birth in block 10A, month and day of death in block 10B, highest rank attained in block 12, awards in block 14, war service in block 16, and emblem of belief in block 17. War service includes active duty service during a recognized period of war and the individual does not have to serve in the actual place of war, e.g., Vietnam may be inscribed if the Veteran served during the Vietnam War period, even though the individual never served in the country. Supporting documentation must be included with the claim if you wish to include the highest rank and/or awards.

Additional Items - Information in English or non-English text about the decedent (provided by an authorized applicant), consisting only of characters of the Latin alphabet and/or numbers. Examples of additional items include appropriate terms of endearment, nicknames (in expressions such as "OUR BELOVED POPPY"), military or civilian credentials or accomplishments such as DOCTOR, REVEREND, etc., and special unit designations such as WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS, ARMY AIR CORPS, ARMY NURSE CORPS or SEABEES. All requests for additional inscription items must be stated in block 33 Remarks.

Incomplete or Inaccurate Information on the Claim May Result in Its Return to the Claimant, a Delay in Receipt of the Headstone or Marker, or an Incorrect Inscription.
CLAIM FOR GOVERNMENT MEDALLION FOR PLACEMENT IN A PRIVATE CEMETERY

1. NAME AND DELIVERY ADDRESS FOR MEDALLION

2. NAME OF DECEASED VETERAN

3. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Country)

4. PLACE, OR ETHNICITY (This information will not be included on the medallion)

5. VETERAN’S SOCIAL SECURITY NO. OR SERVICE NO.

6. VETERAN’S SERVICE INFORMATION:

7. ARE YOU:

8. ARE YOU:

9. DATE OF BIRTH

10. DATE(S) ENTERED

11. DATE OF DEATH

12. AGE AT TIME OF DEATH

13. ARE YOU:

14. PERIODS OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

15. PLACE WHERE DECEASED VETERAN IS LOCATED

16. SIGNATURE OF CEMETERY OFFICIAL

17. CERTIFICATION

18. PICTURE IDENTIFICATION (If indicated)

19. IF “YES” HOW MANY?

20. IF “NO” HOW MANY?

21. FAX, TELEPHONE, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS

22. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CLERIC

23. CERTIFICATION

24. NAME AND DELIVERY ADDRESS

25. PLACE, OR ETHNICITY

26. SIGNATURE OF CEMETARY OFFICIAL

27. CERTIFICATION

Instructions and Information Sheet for SF 180
Request Pertaining to Military Record

1. General information: The Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records (SF180) is used to request information from military records. Certain information may only be provided if a request is made for current military service information. In almost all cases, it will be given on the records of the individual in the military service department, including the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC).

2. Personnel Records/Military Human Resource Records/Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) and Medical Records/Service Treatment Records (STR). Personnel records of military members who were discharged, retired, or died in service LESS THAN 62 YEARS AGO and medical records and service treatment records are maintained in the records and facilities as follows: The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS, Coast Guard). STRs of persons on active duty are generally kept at the local servicing clinic. After the last day of the month in which STRs should be requested from the appropriate address on page 2 of the SF 180. (see item 1, Archival Records, if the member was discharged, retired or died in service more than 62 years ago.)

a. Release of Information: Release of information is subject to restrictions imposed by the military services consistent with Department of Defense regulations, the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Privacy Act of 1974. The service member (either past or present) or the member’s legal guardian has access to all information contained in that member’s own records. The authorization signature of the service member or the member’s legal guardian is needed in Section III of the SF180. Others requesting information from military personnel records and/or STRs must have the release authorization in Section III of the SF 180 signal by the member or legal guardian. If the appropriate signature cannot be obtained, only limited types of information can be provided. If the former member is deceased, the surviving next-of-kin may, under certain circumstances, be entitled to the access to the deceased veteran’s records. If there is only one next-of-kin, the deceased veteran’s records may be released to that individual. If there is more than one next-of-kin, the request must specify which next-of-kin is requesting the records.

b. Fees for Archival Records: Access to archival records is granted by offering copies of the records for a fee (44 U.S.C. 2106). If a fee applies to the photocopy of documents in the requested record, you will receive an invoice. Photocopies will be sent after payment is made. For more information see http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/...

3. Where reply may be sent: The reply may be sent to the service member or any other address designated by the service member or other authorized requester. If the designated address is NOT registered to the address of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), provide both the addressee’s name AND “care of” the person to whom the address is registered on the NAME line in Section III, line 3, page 1 of the SF 180. The complete address must be provided, including any apartment/unit/lot/space/number.

4. Definitions and abbreviations: DISCHARGED – the individual has no current military status; SERVICE TREATMENT RECORD (STR) – the chronology of medical, mental health, and dental care received by service members during the course of their military career (does not include records of treatment while hospitalized); T/L – Temporary Disability Retired List.

5. Service completed before World War I, National Archives Trust Fund (NATF) forms must be used to request these records. Obtain the forms by e-mail from inquire@nara.gov or write to the Code of page 2 of the SF 180.

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

The following information is provided in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552a(12) and applies to this form. Authority for collection of the information is 44 U.S.C. 2007, 3101, and 3103, and Public Law 104-134 (April 26, 1996), as amended in title 31, section 7701. Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If the information is not provided, the service member’s records may not have the delay servicing your inquiry because the information needed to locate it. The purpose of the information on this form is to assist in the facility servicing the records (see the address list) in locating the current military service records) or information to answer your inquiry. This form is then returned as a record of disclosure. The form may also be disclosed to Department of Defense components, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS, U.S. Coast Guard), and the National Archives and Records Administration when the original custodian of the military health and personnel records transfers all or part of those records to that agency. If the service member was a member of the National Guard, the form may also be disclosed to the Adjutant General of the appropriate state, District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico, where he or she served.

PAPERSWORTH REDUCTION ACT PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

Public burden for this collection of information is estimated to be five minutes per request, including time for reviewing instructions and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001. DO NOT SEND COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS LISTED ON PAGE 2 OF THE SF 180.
REQUEST PERTAINING TO MILITARY RECORDS

Requests from veterans or deceased veteran’s next-of-kin may be submitted online by using eVetRecs at http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records.

To ensure the best possible service, please thoroughly review the accompanying instructions before filling out this form. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY OF TYPE BELOW.

SECTION I - INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS

1. NAME USED DURING SERVICE (Last, first, initial(s))
   2. SOCIAL SECURITY #
   3. DATE OF BIRTH
   4. PLACE OF BIRTH

5. SERVICE, PAST AND PRESENT (For an effective records search, it is important that ALL service be shown below.)*

   a. ACTIVE
   b. RESERVE
   c. NATIONAL GUARD

6. IS THIS PERSON DECEASED? [ ] NO [ ] YES
   MUST provide Date of Death if veteran is deceased

7. DID THIS PERSON RETIRE FROM MILITARY SERVICE? [ ] NO [ ] YES

SECTION II – INFORMATION AND/OR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. CHECK THE ITEMS YOU ARE REQUESTING:

   a. DD Form 214 or equivalent. Year(s) in which form(s) issued to veteran:

   b. Military Records Includes Service Treatment Records, Health (outpatient) and Dental Records.

   c. This form contains information normally needed to verify military service. A copy may be sent to the veteran, the deceased veteran’s next-of-kin, or other persons or organizations, if authorized in Section III, below.

   d. Please explain:

   SEASON III – RETURN ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE

1. REQUESTER NAME:

   a. I am the MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER or VETERAN identified in Section I above.

   b. I am the DECEASED VETERAN’s NEXT-OF-KIN (MUST submit Proof of Death. See item 2a on instruction sheet.)

   c. Relationship to deceased veteran

2. SEND INFORMATION/DOCUMENTS TO:

   a. National Personnel Records Center
   b. St. Louis, MO 63138-1002
   c. Customer Service: (314) 801-8800
   d. FAX: (314) 801-9195

   * This form is available at http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html on the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) web site.

   www.archives.gov/
   General Questions: cpr.center@nara.gov

   b. Military Records

   c. An UNDELETED copy will be sent UNLESS YOU SPECIFY A DELETED COPY by checking this box: [ ] I want a deleted copy.

   d. Medical Records

   e. An UNDELETED copy will be sent UNLESS YOU SPECIFY A DELETED COPY by checking this box: [ ] I want a deleted copy.

   Other (Specify):

   f. Other

   Other (Specify):

   Explain here:

   g. INCLUSION OF SERVICE RECORDS

   i. Includes Service Treatment Records, Health (outpatient) and Dental Records.

   ii. Other

   iii. Please explain:

   h. INCLUSION OF SERVICE RECORDS

   i. Inpatient

   j. Outpatient

   k. Other

   l. Please explain:

   m. PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

   i. REQUIRED IMPORTANT INFORMATION

   ii. Other

   iii. Please explain:

   n. Name

   o. Signature

   p. Signature Required - Do not print

   q. Date

   r. Daytime phone

   s. Fax Number

   t. Email address

The various categories of military service records are described in the chart below. For each category there is a code number which indicates the address at the bottom of the page:

**BRANCH**  
**CURRENT STATUS OF SERVICE MEMBER**  
**PERSONAL RECORD**  
**MEDICAL OR SERVICE TREATMENT RECORD**

- **Air Force**  
  - Discharged, deceased on or before 5/1/1994: 14 14  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 5/1/1994: 9/30/2006: 14 14  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 10/1/2004: 12/31/2011: 1 11  
  - Active or Selected Guard or Reserve on or after 1/1/1998: 1 1  
  - Active or Selected Guard: 1/1/1990: 4 4  
  - Active or Selected Reserve: 1/1/1999: 3 3

- **Coast Guard**  
  - Discharged, deceased on or before 5/1/1994: 5/1/1996: 14 14  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 5/1/1999: 12/31/1999: 2 2  
  - Active or Selected Reserve or Tribunal: 1 1

- **Marine Corps**  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 5/1/1994: 12/31/2011: 2 2  
  - Active or Selected Marine Corps Reserve: 1/1/1999: 4 4  
  - Active or Selected Reserve: 1/1/1999: 4 4

- **Army**  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 5/1/1994: 9/30/1997 (officer): 14 14  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 10/1/1997 (officer): 10/15/1992 (officer): 14 14  
  - Active or Selected Reserve (including Reserve National Guard): 1 1

- **Navy**  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 1/1/1999 (officer): 1/1/1999: 6 6  
  - Discharged, deceased or retired on or after 1/1/2003 (officer): 12/31/2001: 14 14

- **National Guard**  
  - Active, Retired, or National Guard Reserve: 9/30/1990: 12/31/1991: 1 1  
  - Active, Retired, or National Guard Reserve: 1/1/2001: 9/30/2013: 1 1

- **Reserve**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 10 10

- **Public Health Service**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 10 10

**ADDRESS LIST OF CUSTODIANS AND SELF-SERVICE WEBSITES (BY CODE NUMBERS SHOWN ABOVE)**

- **Air Force**  
  - Active or Selected Guard or Reserve: 1/1/1990: 4 4
  - Active or Selected Reserve: 1/1/1999: 4 4
  - Active, Retired, or National Guard Reserve: 9/30/1990: 12/31/1991: 1 1
  - Active, Retired, or National Guard Reserve: 1/1/2001: 9/30/2013: 1 1

- **Coast Guard**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 1 1

- **Marine Corps**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 1 1

- **Army**  
  - Active or Selected Reserve (including Reserve National Guard): 1 1

- **Navy**  
  - Active or Selected Reserve: 1 1

- **National Guard**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 1 1

- **Reserve**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 1 1

- **Public Health Service**  
  - Active, Retired, or Tribal: 1 1

**VA FORM 27-2008, JUN 2018**

**APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES FLAG FOR BURIAL PURPOSES**

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED VETERAN (Complete as much as possible)**

- **1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF VETERAN (Print or type)**
- **2. VA FILE NUMBER**
- **3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**
- **4. MILITARY SERVICE NUMBER/SERIAL NUMBER**
- **5. BRANCH OF SERVICE (Check box)**
- **6. DATE ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY (or Selected Reserve)**
- **7. DATE RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY (or Selected Reserve)**
- **8. DATE OF DEATH**
- **9. PLACE OF BURIAL (Name of cemetery, city, and State)**
- **10. DATE OF BURIAL**

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE FLAG RECIPIENT AND APPLICANT**

- **11A. NAME OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG**
- **11B. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG**
- **11C. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG**
- **11D. TELEPHONE NUMBER**
- **11E. TELEPHONE NUMBER**

**FILE ACTIVITY**

- **12. PLACE OF BURIAL (Name of cemetery, city, and State)**
- **13. RECORD OF GOVERNMENTAL OR OTHER AGENT'S USE OF UNITED STATES FLAG**
- **14. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG**
- **15. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG**

**PENALTY**

- **The law provides that whoever makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false shall be punished by a fine, imprisonment, or both.**

**VA FORM 27-2008, JUN 2018**

**SUPERSEDES VA FORM 27-2008, MAY 2015, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.**

**SUPERSEDES VA FORM 27-2008, MAY 2015, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.**

**NOTIFICATION OF ISSUE AND DELIVERY OF UNITED STATES FLAG**

- **DATE OF ISSUE**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- **DATE OF ISSUE**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**
- **DATE OF DELIVERY**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)**

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE FLAG RECIPIENT AND APPLICANT**

- **16. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)**
- **17. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)**
- **18. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK)**

**RECEIPT**

- **19. DATE SIGNED**
- **20. DATE SIGNED**
- **21. DATE SIGNED**

**RESPONDENT BURDEN: 15 Minutes**

**OMB Control No. 2900-0013**

**SUPERSEDES VA FORM 27-2008, MAY 2015, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.**
Dignity Memorial Veterans Planning Guide

INSTRUCTIONS

A. How can I contact VA if I have questions?
If you have questions about this form, how to fill it out, or about benefits, contact your nearest VA regional office. You can locate the address of the nearest regional office in your telephone book under "United States Government, Veterans" or call 1-800-827-1000 (Hearing Impaired TDD relay line is 711). You may also contact VA by Internet at https://iris.va.gov/help.com.

B. How do I apply for a burial flag?
Complete VA Form 27-2008, and submit it to a funeral director or a representative of the veteran or other organization having charge of the funeral arrangements or acting in the interest of the veteran. You may get a flag at any VA regional office or U.S. Post Office. When burial is in a national, state or military post cemetery, a burial flag will be provided.

C. Who is eligible for a burial flag?
Generally, veterans with an other than dishonorable discharge. Note: This includes veterans who served in the Philippine military forces while such forces were in the service of the U.S. armed forces under the President's Order of July 26, 1941 and died on or after April 25, 1951, and veterans who served in the Philippine military services are eligible for burial in a national cemetery.

D. Who is not eligible for a burial flag?
• Members of the Selected Reserve whose last discharge from service was under conditions less favorable than honorable.
• Pacifique veterans who were discharged before June 27, 1930 and did not serve at least one complete enlistment or, in the case of an officer, the period of initial obligation, or were discharged for disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty, or died while a member of the Selected Reserve.

D. Who is not eligible for a burial flag? (Continued)
• Persons who served with any of the forces allied with the United States in any war, even though United States citizens, if they did not serve with the United States armed forces.
• Persons inducted for training and service who, before entering such training and service were transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps and given a furlough.

F. Who is eligible to receive a burial flag?
Only one flag may be issued for each deceased veteran. Generally, the flag is given to the next-of-kin as a keepsake in its use during the funeral service. The flag is given to the following person(s) in the order of precedence listed:

• surviving spouse
• children, according to age
• parents, including adoptive, stepparents, and foster parents
• brothers or sisters, including brothers or sisters of half blood
• uncles or aunts
• nephews or nieces
• other, such as cousins or grandparents

Note: When there is no next-of-kin, VA will furnish the flag to a friend of the deceased whose training and service were transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps and given a furlough.

E. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag?
Provide a copy of the veteran's discharge documents that show service dates and the character of service, such as DD Form 214, or verification of service from the veteran's service department or VA. Various information requested, is considered essential to the proper processing of the application and VA reserves the right to refuse a flag if a complete report of the deceased's death cannot be furnished. Note: If the claimant is unable to provide document, a flag may be issued when a statement is made by a person of established character and reputation that he/she personally knows the deceased to have been a veteran who meets the eligibility criteria.

F. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag? (Continued)

• Discharged or rejected draftees, or members of the National Guard; Air National Guard; or Army National Guard who served at least one enlistment or, in the case of an officer, the period of initial obligation, or were discharged for disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty, or died while a member of the Selected Reserve.

F. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag? (Continued)

• Persons who were convicted of a Federal capital crime and sentenced to death or life imprisonment, or were convicted of a State capital crime and sentenced to death or life imprisonment without parole, or were found to have committed a Federal or State capital crime but were not convicted by reason of not being available for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution.

F. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag? (Continued)
• Discharged or rejected draftsmen, or members of the National Guard, who reported to camp in answer to the President's call for World War I service but, when medically examined, were not finally accepted for military service.

F. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag? (Continued)
• Persons who were discharged from World War I service prior to November 12, 1918, on their own application or solicitation by reason of being an alien, or any veterans discharged for alienage during a period of hostilities.

VA FORM 27-2008, JUN 2018

8. DATE OF BIRTH

9. PLACE OF BIRTH

10. MARRIAGE DATES

11. VETERAN/SERVICE MEMBER NAME

12. SPOUSE/SURVIVING SPOUSE NAME

13. MILITARY STATUS USED TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

14. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

15. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

16. HIGHEST RANK ATTAINED

17. DISCHARGE - CHARACTER

18. DATE OF DEATH

19. CAUSE OF DEATH

20. PLACE OF DEATH

21. DEATH CERTIFICATE NUMBER

22. COPY OF DEATH CERTIFICATE

23. CLAIMANT

24. CLAIMANT'S MAILING ADDRESS

25. CLAIMANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER

26. CLAIMANT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

27. CLAIMANT'S DATE OF BIRTH

28. CLAIMANT’S MAIDEN NAME

29. DEGREE OF ELIGIBLE VA NATIONAL CEMETARY (See instructions)

30. EMAIL ADDRESS

31. IDENTITY OF CLAIMANT (See instructions)

32. CERTIFICATION

33. SIGNATURE (required)

34. PERSON'S ADDRESS

35. PERSON’S TELEPHONE NUMBER

36. PERSON’S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

37. PERSON’S DATE OF BIRTH

38. PERSON’S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

39. NO. OF DEPENDENTS

40. # OF LOVED ONES

41. NAME OF DECEASED (If different than item 1) (Last, First, Middle Name or Initial) (Abbrev.)

42. ADDRESS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS INQUIRIES TO: 1-800-827-1000

43. ADDRESS FOR VA CLAIMANTS CLAIMS INQUIRIES TO: 1-800-827-1000

44. DIGNITY MEMORIAL VETERANS PLANNING GUIDE

45. DIGNITY MEMORIAL VETERANS PLANNING GUIDE
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING VA FORM 40-10007 APPLICATION FOR PRE-NEED DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BURIAL IN A VA NATIONAL CEMETERY

For more complete information on eligibility requirements for burial in a VA national cemetery, visit the National Cemetery Administration online at https://www.va.gov/va-cemeteries or call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-800-535-1117. For the purposes of this form, the term burial includes interment (above ground remains placement in a columbarium) and scattering of ashes, (if the cemetery chosen offers those options). A Pre-Need determination of eligibility does not guarantee burial in a specific VA national cemetery. Burial in a specific VA national cemetery will be scheduled at the Time of Need. In order to assist in completing this form, specific instructions and explanations for certain items are given below.

SECTION I: VETERAN/SERVICEMEMBER

Eligibility for burial in a VA national cemetery is based on the qualifying service of a Veteran/Servicemember. This section of the form is used to determine if qualifying service exists. Not all items are mandatory, however, answers to questions will aid VA in searching for records in archives to support the claim.

Item 13 Military status used to apply for eligibility determination: For VA benefit purposes, a Veteran is a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. VA will determine on a case-by-case basis whether certain Reserve duty qualifies. If eligibility derives from a status not listed, or if the individual is not certain of the status, check “Other” and submit evidence of service and VA will provide appropriate assistance. Servicemembers who die on active duty are eligible for burial. If you are arranging burial for an active duty Servicemember or his or her dependents, you should contact a local funeral home or the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-800-535-1117 to expedite processing.

Item 17 Discharge - Character of Service: Please indicate one type of “Discharge - Character of Service”: Honorable; General; Entry Level Separation/Uncharacterized; Other Than Honorable; Bad Conduct; or Dishonorable. If uncertain of the type of discharge or character of service, indicate “Other” and include available supporting documents.

Item 22 Supporting military service documents: VA recommends that you attach photocopies of readily available supporting documents so that we can make the determination quickly. Documents may include the most recent discharge document (DD Form 214) showing the highest rank and valor awards and decorations, active duty service records other than for training purposes, or active duty for a minimum of 24 continuous months for enlisted Servicemembers after September 7, 1980; for officers, after October 16, 1981, or the full period for which the person was called to active duty. If you are unable to locate copies of military records, apply anyway, as VA will attempt to obtain records necessary to make a determination.

SECTION II: CLAIMANT INFORMATION

Each Claimant requires a separate VA Form 40-10007.

23a. Spouse means a person who is or was legally married to a Veteran. Surviving Spouse mean a person who was legally married to a Veteran at the time of the Veteran's death and includes a surviving spouse who has a subsequent remarriage. A non-Veteran spouse of a Veteran whose marriage to the Veteran was dissolved by divorce or annulment issued by an authoritative court is not eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery.

23b. An unmarried adult child of the Veteran is an individual who became permanently physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support before reaching 21 years of age, or before reaching 23 years of age if pursuing a full-time course of instruction at an approved educational institution. If you are making a claim for an unmarried adult child, please provide supporting documentation such as recent medical documentation pertaining to the disability, date of onset of the disability, and the age of the child when diagnosed with this disability. VA recommends that you provide photocopies. Note: Minor children of eligible Veterans are eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery. The minor child of an eligible Veteran is a child who is under 21 years of age, or who is under 23 years of age and is pursuing a full-time course of instruction at an approved educational institution.

Items 29 and 30 A list of VA national cemeteries is available online at http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/cem.html. A favorable Pre-Need determination of eligibility does not guarantee burial in a specific VA national cemetery. Burial in a specific VA national cemetery will be scheduled at the time of need. If you provide an email address, VA may use your email address to communicate with you about your claim and burial benefits.

SECTION III: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

The pre-need application must be signed (Item 31) and dated (Item 32) for VA to process.

Item 33 You must indicate your relationship to the claimant in Item 33.

33a. Check (A) if you are the claimant

33b. Check (B) and complete Items 34-37 if you are signing for a claimant who has not attained the age of 18 years, is mentally incompetent, or is physically unable to sign the pre-need application. You may be a court-appointed representative, a person who is responsible for the care of the individual (including a spouse or other relative), or an attorney in fact or agent authorized to act on behalf of the claimant under a durable power of attorney. If the claimant is in the care of an institution, a manager or principal officer of the institution may sign the form. Please attach supporting documents or an affidavit establishing your position relative to the claimant.

Privacy Act Information: VA considers the responses you submit confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). VA may only disclose this information outside the VA if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 1755VA44A, published in the Federal Register. VA considers the requested information relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law.

Respondent Burden: Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the necessary data, and complete and review the collection of information. The obligation to respond is voluntary and not required to obtain or retain benefits.
This booklet and other resources have been developed by the Dignity Memorial® network of more than 1,900 funeral, cremation and cemetery service providers. As North America’s most trusted resource for funeral and memorialization services, Dignity Memorial providers offer an unmatched combination of products and locations serving families with integrity, respect and service excellence.

1-866-508-5834
DignityMemorial.com/Veterans