# Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

# Funerals, Burials, Cemeteries and Headstones

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs.

To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Please note: If you are working with a funeral home, they may assist you in completing the necessary burial flag paperwork to submit to the VA.

# **See also Survivor and Dependent Benefits**

# **Requesting Your DD-214**

St. Louis. MO 63138

Whenever a veteran requests benefits and services, a copy of the individual's discharge papers are required to verify eligibility. This includes admission to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Maryland's five cemeteries, VA claims and a myriad of other services provided to veterans and their families. Veterans and their next of kin can request a copy of the service member's DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty from the National Archives. You can request the DD214 online via their website – www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records. Click on the link "Submit your request online". You can also make a request by sending a letter to the address listed below.

#### **National Personnel Records Center**

314-801-0800 (V) Military Personnel Records 1 Archives Drive

# Military Funeral Honors - Maryland National Guard Honor Guard

https://military.maryland.gov/mdng/Documents/hgbrochure.pdf

410-576-6133 (Army/Air Force) 703-432-9524 / 1-866-826-3628 (Marine Corps) 301-677-0476 / 202-433-4589 (Navy) 757-686-4116 / 202-372-4013 (Coast Guard) Email: honorquard.secretary@maryland.gov

The Maryland National Guard (MDNG) Honor Guard offers Military Funeral Honors to veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States and were separated with a discharge other than Dishonorable. The MDNGHG operates out of 4 locations throughout the state providing professional and dignified services to departed Maryland veterans. Honors are not performed automatically; they must be requested. Families of eligible veterans must request Funeral Honors through their funeral director. The funeral director will contact the MDNG Honor Guard to arrange for the Military Funeral Honors detail.

#### **Arlington National Cemetery**

# www.arlingtoncemetery.mil

1-877-907-8585 (Toll Free)

Open 7 days a week, 365 days a year. April 1 to September 30 from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and October 1 to March 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Parking garage closes one hour after the cemetery. Scheduling A Funeral Service: Upon the death of the Veteran or Veteran's spouse, the surviving spouse or personal representative should contact a local funeral home to arrange for any desired services in the hometown. The surviving spouse, personal representative, or the funeral director should telephone the Arlington National Cemetery's Customer Service Call Center at 1-877-907-8585 to arrange for the interment/inurnment service. An individual case number will be assigned, and a cemetery representative will call the point of contact to establish eligibility. Before scheduling the service, the cemetery staff will need to determine the eligibility of the deceased in accordance with Arlington National Cemetery interment eligibility criteria. Upon verification of eligibility, the cemetery staff will reserve the necessary ceremonial resources and schedule the interment. Arlington National Cemetery does not charge fees for an interment or inurnment at the cemetery. The U.S. government will provide, at no cost to the estate of the deceased, an upright, white marble headstone or white marble niche cover. Arlington National Cemetery no longer accepts requests for new private (e.g. not government-provided) headstone markers.

# Burial Benefits - U.S. Department of Veterans

#### www.cem.va.gov/burial benefits

The VA does not make funeral arrangements or perform cremations. Families should make these arrangements with a funeral provider or cremation office. Any item or service obtained from a funeral home or cremation office will be at the families' expense. Burial benefits available include a gravesite in any of the VA's 135 national cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a Government headstone or marker, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost to the family. Some veterans may also be eligible for Burial Allowances. Cremated remains are buried or inurned in national cemeteries in the same manner and with the same honors as casketed remains. Burial benefits available for spouses and dependents buried in a national cemetery include burial with the veteran, perpetual care, and the spouse or dependents name and date of birth and death will be inscribed on the veteran's headstone, at no cost to the family. Eligible spouses and dependents may be buried, even if they predecease the veteran. Gravesites in VA national cemeteries cannot be reserved in advance. You should advise your family of your wishes and where your discharge papers are kept. These papers are very important in establishing your eligibility. You may wish to make pre-need arrangements with a funeral home. At the time of need your family would contact a funeral home who will assist them with making burial arrangements at the national cemetery. To schedule a burial: Fax all discharge documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 (Toll Free) and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117 (Toll Free) or scan and e-mail the documentation to NCA. Scheduling@va.gov with the name of the decendent in the subject line and follow-up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117 (Toll Free).

#### **Burial and Plot-Interment Allowances**

#### www.va.gov/burials-memorials/veterans-burial-allowance

VA burial allowances are flat-rate monetary benefits. They help cover eligible veterans' burial and funeral costs. Generally, they are paid at the maximum amount allowed by law. Eligible surviving spouses are now paid automatically. This happens upon notification of the veteran's death. There is no need to submit a claim. However, VA may grant additional benefits after receiving a claim. These include plot or interment allowance and transportation allowance.

# **Burial Flags**

#### www.va.gov/burials-memorials/memorial-items/burial-flags

A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased veteran who served honorably in the U. S. Armed Forces. It is furnished to honor the memory of a veteran's military service to his or her country. The VA will furnish a burial flag for memorialization for each other than dishonorable discharged - Veteran who served during wartime; Veteran who died on active duty after May 27, 1941; Veteran who served after January 31, 1955; peacetime Veteran who was discharged or released before June 27, 1950; certain persons who served in the organized military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines while in service of the U.S. Armed Forces and who died on or after April 25, 1951; certain former members of the Selected Reserves. Generally, the flag is given to the next-of-kin, as a keepsake, after its use during the funeral service. When there is no next-of-kin, VA will furnish the flag to a friend making request for it.

#### Headstones, Markers and Medallions

#### www.va.gov/burials-memorials/memorial-items/headstones-markers-medallions

The VA furnishes upon request, at no charge to the applicant, a Government headstone or marker for the unmarked grave of any deceased eligible Veteran in any cemetery around the world, regardless of their date of death. A Government-furnished headstone or marker may be provided for eligible Veterans who died on or after November 1, 1990 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone. A Government-furnished medallion may be provided for eligible veterans who served on or after April 6, 1917 and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker. Flat markers in granite, marble, and bronze and upright headstones in granite and marble are available. Bronze niche markers are also available to mark columbaria used for inurnment of cremated remains. The style chosen must be permitted by the officials in charge of the private cemetery where it will be placed. When burial or memorialization is in a national cemetery, state veterans' cemetery, or military post/base cemetery, a headstone or marker will be ordered by the cemetery officials based on inscription information provided by the next of kin or authorized representative. Spouses and dependents are not eligible for a Government-furnished headstone or marker unless they are buried in a national cemetery, state veteran's cemetery, or military post/base cemetery. Note: There is no charge for the headstone or marker itself, however arrangements for placing it in a private cemetery are the applicant's responsibility and all setting fees are at private expense.

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# **Presidential Memorial Certificates (PMC)**

#### www.va.gov/burials-memorials/memorial-items/presidential-memorial-certificates

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of deceased veterans who are eligible for burial in a national cemetery. A PMC is authorized for veterans who are eligible for burial in a national cemetery by reason of any of paragraphs (1), (2), (3), or (7) of section 2402(a) of title 38 U.S. Code §112. An eligible recipient (i.e., next of kin, a relative or friend upon request, or an authorized service representative acting on behalf of such relative or friend) may apply.

#### Casualty Assistance Program - U.S. Department of Defense

Each branch of service has their own casualty assistance program. Provides assistance for families of ill, injured, or deceased service members in a broad range of areas, including: transportation; explaining and assisting in applying for and receiving benefits and entitlements; obtaining copies of records, reports, and investigations; legal matters (including tax issues); receipt of personal effects; burial expenses; injury, mortuary, and funeral honors assistance; relocation assistance (including shipment of household goods); liaison with other federal agencies; and emotional and spiritual support. Casualty assistance is available to the person most closely related to the deceased service member, the primary next of kin.

# **Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operation Division (CMAOD)**

Directorate of Human Resources ATTN: Casualty Assistance Center Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall 204 Lee Ave, Suite B12

Joint Base Myer-Henderson, VA 22211-5050

Email: usarmy.jbmhh.asa.mbx.hrd-casualty-assistance@army.mil

703-696-3237 (Main Line) 703-696-8899 (Casualty Benefits Coordinator) 703-696-6363 (Mortuary Affairs Coordinator) 703-696-6364 (Memorial Affairs Coordinator)

www.hrc.army.mil/content/Joint%20Base%20Myer-Henderson%20Hall%20Casualty%20Assistance%20Center

CMAOD is dedicated to the mission of providing assistance to the families of our fallen Soldiers - in the days, months, and years ahead. Fort Myer Casualty Assistance Center manages Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties in Maryland, Arlington and Fairfax Counties and Alexandra, Fairfax, and Falls Church cities in Virginia, and Washington, DC.

#### **Navy Casualty Assistance Division**

Email: mill NAVMORT.fct@navy.mil

1-866-787-0081 (Active Duty Death Inquiries) 1-866-787-0081 (Other Mortuary Services)

# www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Casualty/Mortuary-Services

The Navy Mortuary Branch within the Navy Casualty Assistance Division ensures prompt and uniform death benefits are provided to all Navy beneficiaries worldwide. Included as beneficiaries are those missing/killed in previous conflicts such as Southeast Asia, Korea, WWII and Vietnam who have been recovered and identified. In addition, the Navy Mortuary staff coordinates the Navy's Burial-At-Sea program.

#### **Marine Corps Casualty Assistance Program**

Email: <u>CASUALTY.SECTION@USMC.MIL</u> www.mcieast.marines.mil/StaffOffices/Adjutant/CasualtyAssistanceProgram.aspx

703-784-9512 (V) 1-800-847-1597 (Toll Free)

Provide authorized and necessary assistance to eligible family members of deceased, duty status-whereabouts unknown (DUSTWUN), excused absence - whereabouts unknown (EAWUN), missing, ill or injured personnel. Assistance may include but is not limited to: transportation assistance; applying for and receiving benefits and entitlements; obtaining copies of records, reports and investigations; legal assistance; receipt of personal effect; mortuary and funeral honors assistance; relocation assistance, including shipment of household goods; liaison with other federal agencies; information and referral, including emotional and spiritual support, and any other assistance as requested.

# **Air Force Casualty Services**

Email: <u>AFPC.Casualty@us.af.mil</u> www.afpc.af.mil/Benefits-and-Entitlements/Casualty-Operations

Casualty Assistance Representative Locator: 1-877-353-6807 (Enter zip code when prompted)

Provides guidance to commanders, casualty assistance representatives, family assistance representatives, and many other support agencies to ensure members and their families are taken care of as expeditiously as possible in a family emergency.

# **Coast Guard Casualty Matters**

Brian R. Behlke, Program Manager Email: Brian.R.Behlke@uscg.mil

www.dcms.uscg.mil/PSD/fs/Casualty-Matters

202-795-6637 (Office) 571-266-2375 (Cell)

# Military Funeral Honors - U.S. Department of Defense

# www.cem.va.gov/military funeral honors.asp

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for providing military funeral honors. "Honoring Those Who Served" is the title of the DOD program for providing dignified military funeral honors to Veterans who have defended our nation.

Upon the family's request, Public Law 106-65 requires that every eligible Veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony, to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and the playing of "Taps." The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons, with at least one being a member of the Veteran's parent service of the armed forces.

The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the Veteran's family. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration cemetery staff can also assist with arranging military funeral honors at VA national cemeteries. Veterans organizations may also assist in providing military funeral honors.

# Veterans Cemetery and Memorial Programs - Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

Russell Ware, Director 1122 Sunrise Beach Road Crownsville, MD 21032

Email: russell.ware@maryland.gov

http://veterans.maryland.gov/cemetery-and-memorial-program/

Offer Maryland veterans, and their eligible dependents, a final resting place at one of five state veterans' cemeteries located throughout Maryland. A pre-internment program is available through which veterans may indicate their desire to be buried in one of the state's cemeteries and verify their eligibility for such burial on a pre-need basis. The following facilities provide interment services during the normal business week (Monday through Friday) and are open to the public 365 days of the year.

# Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery - Prince George's County

11301 Crain Highway Cheltenham, MD 20623 301-372-6398 (V)

410-923-6981 (V)

# **Crownsville Veterans Cemetery – Anne Arundel County**

1122 Sunrise Beach Road Crownsville, MD 21032

410-987-6320 (V)

#### Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery - Dorchester County

6827 East New Market Ellwood Road Hurlock, MD 21643

410-943-3420 (V) 1-866-497-3684 (Toll Free)

# Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery – Baltimore County 11501 Garrison Forest Road Owings Mills, MD 21117 Rocky Gap Veterans Cemetery – Allegany County 14205 Pleasant Valley Road, NE 301-777-2185 (V)

Flintstone, MD 21530