

Vietnam Veterans of America

Kansas State Council

recommends that YOU take the initiative and prepare for this outcome. We recommend that you follow these simple steps.



1. Contact your Funeral Director for burial.
2. Contact the Religious Leader of your church, synagogue, or temple.
3. Furnish Funeral Director a copy of Veterans Military Discharge Certificate or Report of Separation (DD 214), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Claim Number (if known) and the Veteran's Social Security number.
4. Funeral Director will usually apply any amount allowed from the VA toward burial expenses.
5. Funeral Director will usually apply for the US Flag to drape the casket. If not, contact a Veterans Service Officer (VSO) or the local Postmaster with proof of Military service and a copy of the Death Certificate.
6. Contact the VVA Chapter President for Ritual of Service (Honor Guard) if desired. Contact the VVA Chapter President if it is the wish of the family to have the US Flag presented to the next of kin during the grave site service.
7. Contact the VVA State Chaplain or with the VVA Chapter Chaplain.
8. Veterans Service Officer, can assist you or inform you of the benefits to which you may be entitled through the VA such as:
(A) Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for spouse or dependent child;
(B) Death Pension for spouse or dependent child.

(C) VA Burial Benefits:

1. Burial Benefits for veterans receiving compensation or pension or who would be receiving compensation or pension, but for the receipt of military retirement, or who die in the VA Medical Center;
2. Burial allowance for indigent veterans who die as the result of service connected disabilities;
3. Burial allowance for indigent veterans whose remains are unclaimed;
4. Burial plot allowance;
5. Headstones, grave marker, or niche marker.

(D) National Service VA Life Insurance

Important documents to have available when applying for assistance

1. Honorable Discharge - DD 214
2. Record of Marriage
3. Birth Certificate of dependent child
4. Death Certificate of the veteran and any previous spouse.
5. Veteran's social security number and VA claim number
6. Divorce papers (if applicable)
7. Adoption papers for dependent child (if applicable)
8. Your annual income figures: wages, retirement, interest, etc.
9. When contacting your Social Security office, the following information will be required:
 - a) Discharge or DD214
 - b) Record of marriage
 - c) Proof of age and birth of children
 - d) Divorce papers (if applicable)
 - e) Adoption papers for dependent children (if applicable)
 - f) Death certificate
10. Insurance: A death Certificate is always required to receive payment. The Veterans Service Officer may offer assistance for VA insurance. Also, VVA members may carry

Life Insurance on an individual basis with other companies.



VA Burial Benefits:

The VA offers certain benefits and services to honor our Nation's deceased veterans. The following benefits are:

- * Headstones and Markers - the VA can furnish a monument to mark the grave of an eligible veteran.
- * Burial Flag - the VA can provide a American flag to drape an eligible veteran's casket.
- * Reimbursement of Burial Expenses - generally, the VA can pay a burial allowance of \$2,000 for veterans who die of service-related causes. For certain other veterans, the VA will pay \$300 for burial and funeral expenses and \$300 for a plot.
- * Burial in VA National Cemetery - Most veterans and some dependents can be buried in a VA National Cemetery.
- * Time Limits - there is no time limit for claiming reimbursement of burial expenses for a service-related death. In other cases, claims must be filed within two (2) years of the veteran's burial.