

ILLUSTRATIONS OF STANDARD GOVERNMENT HEADSTONES AND MARKERS

**UPRIGHT HEADSTONE
WHITE MARBLE (U) OR
LIGHT GRAY GRANITE (V)**



This headstone is 42 inches long, 13 inches wide and 4 inches thick. Weight is approximately 230 pounds. Variations may occur in stone color, and the marble may contain light to moderate veining. Additional inscription is limited to 15 characters (including spaces) up to four lines maximum.

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, permanent and durable headstone or marker for eligible Veterans who died on or after November 1, 1990 and are buried in a private cemetery. Additional inscription is limited to 27 characters (including spaces) up to two lines maximum.

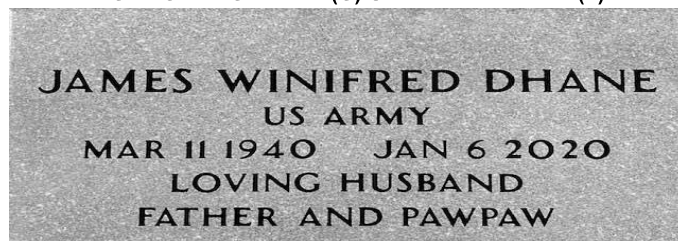
FLAT MARKERS

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. Additional inscription is limited to 27 characters (including spaces) up to two lines maximum.

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. Additional inscription is limited to 27 characters (including spaces) up to two lines maximum.

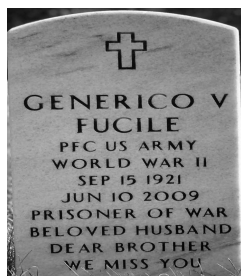
SMALL FLAT GRANITE (L)



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. Additional inscription is limited to 27 characters (including spaces) up to two lines maximum.



Spousal inscription information (i.e., name, date of birth, and date of death) is authorized on a Government-furnished headstone or marker if the Veteran's date of death is on or after October 1, 2019. For flat markers, the spousal information is inscribed at the bottom. For upright headstones, the spousal information is inscribed on the back.



VA will include a Prisoner of War (POW) or Former Prisoner of War (FPOW) inscription, upon request and with confirmation. Character and space limitations apply based on marker type.

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. The applicant must submit detailed documentation to VA that supports eligibility for a historic headstone. Inscriptions on these headstone types are intentionally limited to assure historic accuracy. For example, only ranks above 'Private' were 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 include: 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. Space Force (USSF), U.S. Army Air Forces (USAAF), Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC), U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP), and other organizations authorized for certain periods of time. Different examples of inscription formats are illustrated above. More than one branch of service is permitted, subject to space availability. VA will inscribe the phrase "IN MEMORY OF" on all memorial headstones and markers, as required under 38 CFR 38.630(c).

OPTIONAL ITEMS - Information in English about the decedent (provided by an authorized applicant). Optional items are identified by bold blocks on this form. 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., Korea may be inscribed if the Veteran served during the Korean War period, even though the individual never served in the country. VA will inscribe authorized country names (e.g., Afghanistan, Iraq, etc.) as the war service only if the individual served in country. The applicant must submit supporting documentation to VA to have the highest rank and/or awards inscribed on the headstone or marker.

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. The applicant must request an additional inscription item in block 18, and each request is subject to VA approval. VA will not inscribe graphics, emblems or pictures. VA will inscribe authorized emblems of belief, the Medal of Honor, and the Southern Cross of Honor for Civil War Confederates.

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.

  <div>U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs</div>		CLAIM FOR STANDARD GOVERNMENT HEADSTONE OR MARKER													
IMPORTANT: Please read the General Information Sheet before completing this form. Type or print clearly all information except for signatures. Illegible printing could result in an incorrect headstone or marker or delivery. Failure to complete each block may result in delayed processing. <i>Blocks outlined in bold are optional inscription items. PLEASE INCLUDE MILITARY DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS.</i>												1. TYPE OF REQUEST <input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL REQUEST <i>(First time)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> REPLACEMENT <i>(Specify reason in Block 33, Remarks)</i>		2. CHECK BOX IF REMAINS ARE NOT BURIED AND EXPLAIN IN BLOCK 33 <i>(e.g., buried at sea, remains scattered, etc.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> REMAINS NOT BURIED	
3. NAME OF DECEASED TO BE INSCRIBED ON HEADSTONE OR MARKER <i>(No Nicknames or titles permitted)</i>												SUFFIX <i>(Sr., Jr., II, III, etc.)</i>		4. IS GRAVE CURRENTLY MARKED WITH A PRIVATELY PURCHASED, PERMANENT AND DURABLE MARKER <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
FIRST <i>(Or Initial)</i>			MIDDLE <i>(Or Initial)</i>			LAST									
5. RACE OR ETHNICITY <i>(You may select more than one. Information will be used for statistical purposes only.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> HISPANIC OR LATINO <input type="checkbox"/> WHITE <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO						6. SEX <i>(Information will be used for statistical purposes only.)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> UNSPECIFIED OR ANOTHER GENDER IDENTITY									
VETERAN'S SERVICE AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION <i>(Use numbers only, e.g., 05-15-1941)</i>															
7. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO. AND/OR SERVICE NO. SSN: SVC. NO.:				8. PLACE OF BIRTH <i>(City and State or Country)</i>				9A. DATE OF BIRTH MONTH DAY YEAR			9B. DATE OF DEATH MONTH DAY YEAR				
PERIODS OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY <i>(For additional space use Block 33)</i>						11. HIGHEST RANK ATTAINED <i>(Optional, but if included, no pay grades)</i>				12. PRISONER OF WAR <i>(Optional, but if included, documentation must be provided)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> POW <input type="checkbox"/> FORMER POW (FPOW)					
10A. DATE(S) ENTERED MONTH DAY YEAR			10B. DATE(S) SEPARATED MONTH DAY YEAR												
13. BRANCH OF SERVICE <i>(Check applicable box(es) - must be consistent with rank in Box 11)</i> ARMY NAVY MARINE COAST AIR ARMY AIR MERCHANT SPACE PUBLIC OTHER CORPS GUARD FORCE FORCES MARINE FORCE HEALTH SVC. (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>						14. VALOR OR PURPLE HEART AWARD(S) <i>(Optional, but if included, documentation must be provided)</i> MEDAL OF HONOR DST CROSS SVC CROSS SILVER STAR DST FLYING PURPLE HEART AIR OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>									
15. TYPE OF HEADSTONE OR MARKER REQUESTED <i>(Please ensure marker selection is permitted at selected cemetery.) (Check one)</i> FLAT FLAT UPRIGHT FLAT BRONZE UPRIGHT SMALL FLAT BRONZE GRANITE MARBLE MARBLE NICHE GRANITE GRANITE <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> U <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> L						16. WAR SERVICE <i>(Optional, but if included, check all applicable box(es))</i> <input type="checkbox"/> WORLD WAR II <input type="checkbox"/> PERSIAN GULF <input type="checkbox"/> KOREA <input type="checkbox"/> AFGHANISTAN <input type="checkbox"/> VIETNAM <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <i>(Specify)</i>				17. EMBLEM OF BELIEF <i>(Optional)</i> EMBLEM NUMBER <i>(Specify)</i> <i>(See page 5 for available emblems)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> NONE					
18. ADDITIONAL INSCRIPTION/TERM OF ENDEARMENT <i>(Optional) (Space will vary according to type of marker)</i>															
19a. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT <i>(No., Street, City, State, and ZIP Code)</i>						19b. DAYTIME OR CELL TELEPHONE NUMBER OF APPLICANT <i>(Include Area Code)</i>									
						19c. E-MAIL ADDRESS <i>(Optional)</i>									
						19d. FAX NO. <i>(Optional)</i>									
20. APPLICANT IS: <input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY MEMBER <i>(Specify relationship)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER <input type="checkbox"/> PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE <i>(Person responsible for decisions concerning burial of decedent; include written authorization)</i>															
21. IF REMAINS ARE UNCLAIMED, APPLICANT IS: <input type="checkbox"/> FUNERAL HOME <i>(that received remains)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> CEMETERY <i>(where remains are buried)</i>						22. PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE <i>(bearing the signature of the current President) the number you request to be mailed to you. VA will send one certificate if no quantity is indicated and "none" is not selected.</i> NUMBER REQUESTED <input type="checkbox"/> NONE									
CERTIFICATION: By signing below I certify the headstone or marker will be installed in the cemetery listed in block 29 at no expense to the Government and all information entered on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also 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 the Veteran was sentenced to a minimum of life imprisonment. PENALTY: The law provides severe penalties, which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the willful submission of any statement or evidence of a material fact, knowing it to be false or for the fraudulent acceptance of any benefit to which you are not entitled.															
23. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT												24. DATE <i>(MM/DD/YYYY)</i>			
CERTIFICATION: By signing below I agree to accept prepaid delivery of the headstone or marker for placement on the gravesite for which it is requested, or if placement on the grave is impossible or impractical, as close to the grave as possible within the grounds of the private or local governmental cemetery where the grave is located.															
25. NAME AND DELIVERY ADDRESS OF BUSINESS (CONSIGNEE) THAT WILL ACCEPT PREPAID DELIVERY <i>(No., Street, City, State, and ZIP Code; P.O. BOX IS NOT ACCEPTABLE) MUST SIGN IN BLOCK 27</i>						26. DAYTIME OR CELL PHONE NO. OF CONSIGNEE <i>(Include Area Code)</i>		27. PRINTED NAME AND SIGNATURE OF PERSON REPRESENTING BUSINESS (CONSIGNEE) NAMED IN BLOCK 25			28. DATE <i>(MM/DD/YYYY)</i>				
CERTIFICATION: By signing below I certify the type and placement of the headstone or marker in block 15 adheres to the policies and guidelines of the selected private cemetery in block 25.															
29. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR FAMILY PLOT WHERE GRAVE IS LOCATED <i>(No., Street, City, State, and ZIP Code) MUST SIGN IN BLOCK 31</i>						30. DAYTIME PHONE NO. OF CEMETERY <i>(Include Area Code)</i>		31. PRINTED NAME AND SIGNATURE OF CEMETERY OR OTHER RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL			32. DATE <i>(MM/DD/YYYY)</i>				
33. REMARKS								34. STATION NO. <i>(State/Tribal Cemetery Only)</i>		35. SECTION/GRAVE NO. <i>(State/Tribal Cemetery Only)</i>					

**AVAILABLE EMBLEMS OF BELIEF FOR PLACEMENT ON GOVERNMENT
HEADSTONES AND MARKERS (See block 17)**



To obtain the most recent information about headstones and markers including the complete and most current list of available emblems of belief (listing and graphics), please visit our website at www.cem.va.gov.