

**To whom can I write to express comments or concerns about the Military Funeral Honors program?**

You may write to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for a Department of Defense response, or write to the appropriate service if you would prefer to address your comments to a specific service.

**Office of the Secretary of Defense**

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Military Community and Family Policy)  
4000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-4000

**Army**

U.S. Army Human Resources Command  
The Adjutant General of the U.S. Army  
Casualty and Mortuary Affairs  
Operations Center  
AHRC-PDC-P  
1600 Spearhead Division Ave.  
Fort Knox, KY 40122-5405

**Marine Corps**

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps  
Attn: MFPC (Funeral Honors)  
2008 Elliot Road  
Quantico, VA 22134

**Navy**

Commander, Navy Installations Command  
Casualty and Funeral Honors (N00K)  
Casualty Assistance & Funeral Honors Specialist  
716 Sicard St., SE, Suite 101  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5140

**Air Force**

Air Force Military Funeral Honors  
116 Purple Heart Drive  
Dover AFB, DE 19902

**Coast Guard**

Commander CG Personnel Service Center PSC  
Attn: Casualty Chief,  
PSC-PSD-FS-CASUALTY  
US Coast Guard Stop 7200  
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE  
Washington, DC 20593-7200

**Note:** Funeral directors may call the Department of Defense Military Funeral Honors program 24/7 at Military OneSource: 800-342-9647, Military One Source-TTY/TDD: Dial 711 and 800-342-9647, Military OneSource-En espanol llame al: 800-342-9647

You can find information about funeral honors, answers to frequently asked questions, and a **Military Funeral Honors** directory by service at <https://www.MilitaryOneSource.mil/military-life-cycle/veterans-military-funeral-honors>

The website contains up-to-date information and direct links to other related websites.

Contact Military OneSource at 800-342-9647 for assistance with issues or concerns.



# MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

## Frequently Asked Questions



For more information, visit <https://www.MilitaryOneSource.mil/military-life-cycle/veterans-military-funeral-honors>



**MILITARY ONESOURCE**



### **What is the Military Funeral Honors program?**

The Military Funeral Honors program establishes procedures for requesting and rendering military funeral honors. By law, an honor guard detail for the burial of an eligible veteran shall consist of not less than two members of the armed forces. One member of the detail shall be a representative of the veteran's service branch.

The honor detail will, at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes the playing of Taps and the folding and presentation of the American flag to the next of kin. Taps will be played by a bugler, if available, or by a ceremonial bugle.

The Department of Defense funeral honors detail may be augmented by a veteran service organization to provide additional elements, such as a rifle detail or pallbearers.

### **How does the family request military funeral honors?**

Families of eligible veterans should request military funeral honors through their funeral director. The funeral director will contact the appropriate military service to arrange for the funeral honors detail. Families who are in possession of their veteran loved ones' remains and desire to have a burial ceremony may contact the service casualty office of the veteran. Those contacts are listed on Military OneSource at <https://www.MilitaryOneSource.mil/mfhdirectory>. The service will request that the family provide a copy of the service member's DD Form 214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty," or other supporting discharge information in order to verify eligibility.

### **How can the family obtain a copy of military records and DD Form 214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty," to establish eligibility?**

Submit a request following the guidance on the Veterans Service Records website at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>.

There are specific emergency requests and deadlines procedures for those who need a replacement DD Form 214 in order to schedule funeral honors.

**Note:** The National Archives accepts family requests from only the next of kin. Next of kin for this purpose is identified as a surviving spouse who has not remarried, a father, mother, son, daughter, sister or brother. However, when a loss occurs without notice, please contact the veteran's service casualty office for assistance in expediting a request for military records. The service casualty office is responsible for determining eligibility for the Military Funeral Honors program.

### **Is there a cost for military funeral honors?**

The Department of Defense provides military funeral honors at no cost to the family.

### **How much notice should be provided for the funeral honors request?**

The services request at least 48 hours in order to organize the military funeral honors detail and to arrange for transportation, if required. Submit all requests to the service in which the decedent served.

### **How many funeral honors ceremonies can a veteran receive?**

Funeral honors will only be rendered one time for each eligible beneficiary.

### **May a family request a military funeral honors detail that has representation from both the Department of Defense and the local veteran service organization?**

Yes, the Department of Defense recognizes the valuable role that members of veteran service organizations play in honoring our veterans. Section 1491(b) of Title 10, U.S. Code, authorizes members of veteran service organizations, as well as other approved organizations, to participate with the military services in providing funeral honors. Veteran service organizations and the Authorized Provider Partnership Program, or AP<sup>3</sup>, are able to augment the legislated two-person uniformed member detail by providing additional detail elements for funeral honors.

### **Who is eligible for a burial flag?**

The VA verifies eligibility for veterans in accordance with Section 2301 of Title 38, U.S. Code. Your funeral director will assist you in obtaining a flag. More information is available at [http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial\\_benefits/burial\\_flags.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/burial_benefits/burial_flags.asp).

In the case of in-service deaths (active duty), the Department of Defense provides a U.S. flag to drape the casket or to be presented at a funeral service. After the service, the flag is given to the eligible recipients.