

A VETERAN HAS PASSED— DON'T LEAVE BENEFITS BEHIND

If your loved one served in the United States military, please contact your County Veterans Affairs Office.



We are here to help your family identify and apply for benefits you may be entitled to.

THIS ASSISTANCE IS FREE.



You may be eligible for benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and your County.

FEDERAL VA DEATH & BURIAL BENEFITS

A Veteran's service may provide important benefits at the time of death.

Depending on eligibility, benefits may include:

- VA burial and funeral expense allowances
- Plot or interment allowances
- Transportation reimbursement in qualifying circumstances
- Burial in a VA National Cemetery
- Government-provided grave marker, headstone, or medallion
- Burial flag
- Presidential Memorial Certificate
- Military funeral honors
- Benefits for an eligible spouse or dependent family member

DON'T ASSUME YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.

Let your County Veterans Affairs Office review the Veteran's records and determine what may be available.

VA burial benefits can apply to traditional burial as well as cremation and other eligible forms of disposition. Eligibility depends on the Veteran's service, discharge, circumstances of death, and other requirements.

STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Pennsylvania provides programs that may assist Veterans and their families.

Your County Veterans Affairs Office can help determine whether you qualify for programs such as:

- Burial assistance and burial-related benefits
- Veterans Temporary Assistance
- Other state financial assistance programs
- Benefits for surviving spouses and dependents
- Other Pennsylvania Veterans programs

Pennsylvania also has a separate Department of Human Services burial and cremation assistance program for certain individuals who meet financial and program eligibility requirements.

EVERY FAMILY'S CIRCUMSTANCES ARE DIFFERENT.

A County Veterans Affairs representative can help determine which programs should be explored.

CONTINUATION OF BENEFITS

The death of a Veteran does not necessarily mean all benefits end immediately.

Surviving family members may qualify for benefits based on the Veteran's service and their relationship to the Veteran.

VA DEPENDENCY & INDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC)

Monthly benefits may be available to an eligible surviving spouse, child, or parent when the Veteran's death meets VA requirements.

SURVIVORS PENSION

An eligible surviving spouse or child of a Veteran with qualifying wartime service may qualify based on VA requirements, including income and other eligibility factors.

ACCRUED BENEFITS

If the VA owed the Veteran certain benefits at the time of death, an eligible survivor may be able to receive those unpaid benefits.

OTHER SURVIVOR BENEFITS

Depending on the Veteran's circumstances, additional programs may be available, including healthcare, education, insurance, and other survivor benefits.

IMPORTANT: Benefits and eligibility can be complicated. Contact your County Veterans Affairs Office before assuming a benefit has ended or that you do not qualify.

COUNTY DEATH BENEFITS

Your County may offer additional assistance to Veterans and their families.

Depending on the county, assistance may include:

- Veteran burial allowances
- Burial-related assistance
- Assistance obtaining military records
- Help securing grave markers or headstones
- Emergency financial assistance
- Transportation or other local services
- Assistance applying for federal and state survivor benefits

County programs can vary. Your County Veterans Affairs Office is your local resource for finding out what may be available.

Pennsylvania's County Veterans Affairs Offices are staffed by accredited Veterans Service Officers who provide assistance **AT NO CHARGE.**

VETERAN BURIAL REGISTRATION

Make sure your loved one's military service is properly documented. Your County Veterans Affairs Office can help your family with Veteran burial documentation and registration, including:

- Verifying Veteran status
- Obtaining or locating the DD-214 and other military records
- Applying for a government headstone or grave marker
- Applying for a burial flag
- Requesting military funeral honors
- Determining eligibility for a VA National Cemetery
- Connecting the family with the appropriate federal, state, and county burial resources

Pennsylvania's Burial Honors Program encourages families to work with their funeral director or County Veterans Affairs Office to learn about available burial benefits and military honors.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE FUNERAL HOME OR CEMETERY

Ask one more question:
"Was your loved one a Veteran?"

If the answer is **YES**, encourage the family to contact **YOUR COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE.**

They can help determine whether your family may be entitled to benefits that could otherwise be missed.

THERE IS NO COST FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE.

DON'T LEAVE EARNED BENEFITS UNCLAIMED.



WHAT TO BRING

If available, bring:

- Veteran's DD-214 or discharge papers
- Death certificate
- Marriage certificate, if applicable
- Birth certificates for dependent children, if applicable
- VA correspondence or claim information
- Information about the Veteran's VA disability rating
- Funeral and cemetery receipts
- Information about the Veteran's surviving spouse/dependents
- Any military records you have

Don't have the documents? Don't worry. Your County Veterans Affairs Office may be able to help locate or obtain the records.

YOUR COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE

Free Assistance for Veterans & Their Families

COUNTY: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____
WEBSITE: _____
OFFICE HOURS: _____

Funeral Home / Coroner / Cemetery
LOGO & CONTACT INFORMATION
(OPTIONAL)