

Honoring Those Who Served

Military Funeral Honors:

The rendering of Military Funeral Honors is a way to show the nation's deep gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended our country. This ceremonial paying of respect is the final demonstration a grateful nation can provide to veterans' families. The tradition of providing Military Funeral Honors, in some form, began in ancient Greece and Rome. The funeral honors protocol of today traces its roots to those ancient ceremonies as well as to historical American experiences

HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED is our commitment to recognize the sacrifice and contributions of our nation's veterans.

Military Funeral Honors have always been provided whenever possible. However, federal law now mandates the rendering of Military Funeral Honors for an eligible veteran if requested by the family. Every Honor Detail will at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes the folding and presenting of the American Flag to the next of kin and the playing of taps.

Full Military Funeral Honors include:

Honor Guard Detail

Pallbearers When Requested
Officiating at Funeral Services by Chaplain if Requested by Family
Sounding of Taps with Bugler
Flag Folding Ceremony with Narration
Rifle Salute
Spent Shell Casing Presentations
Presentation of Flag

Requesting a Military Funeral Honors Detail:

Contact your local funeral home or you may contact us directly and we will be glad to assist you in making arrangements with your funeral director for an Honor Guard presentation.

Highland Lakes Honor Guard Contact: Commander Charlie Taylor: 325-248-1833 (text or Voice), or Email cft1144@yahoo.com. If unable, contact Vice Commander Karl Provost at 512-800-9033 (text or Voice) or Email rhino1lead@gmail.com. ALWAYS leave a message with best method for contact.

What is the Cost?

Military Funeral Honors, and all other services provided by the Highland Lakes Honor Guard listed herein, is provided at no cost to the family. However, if a family or organization so wishes, the Highland Lakes Honor Guard will accept an honorarium of any amount that the family or organization might wish to give. Should such an honorarium be given, it will be used exclusively to help offset the cost of providing this community service honoring our country's veterans, and is tax deductible.

General procedure for obtaining military funeral honors

Usually the funeral home director will request the military honors on behalf of the family who will verify the veteran's eligibility to receive military funeral honors. Eligibility details are described below. However, anyone can request this service including Churches, Veteran's organizations, and Family members. All that is required is some form of written verification of the Veteran's active service.

Burial Flags

Burial flags are available to veterans' families at select VA offices and most Post Offices, free of charge. The Highland Lakes Honor Guard does not supply burial flags. To find out which post offices have a flag, call the U.S. Postal Service at 1-800-275-8777.

In most cases, Funeral Directors are able to obtain a burial flag with appropriate documentation, including a veteran's discharge record, a death certificate and a completed VA Form 27-2008. More information can be obtained at: http://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits/burial_flags.asp

Additional Sources of VA Benefit Information <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/>

Llano County Veterans Service Center

<https://www.countyoffice.org/llano-county-veterans-service-center-llano-tx-949/>

1447 Texas 71
Llano, Texas, 78643
325-247-3009

Burnet County Veterans Services <https://www.burnetcountytexas.org/page/vetserv.home>

OFFICE 10
1016 BROADWAY
MARBLE FALLS, TEXAS 78654

Cell: (830) 265-8403
Email: vetsvc@burnetcountytexas.org

Eligibility for Military Funeral Honors:

An active duty service person or in the Selected Reserve, Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Navy Reserve, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, or the Coast Guard Reserve at the time of death.

The Selected Reserve (also called SELRES, SR, or mistakenly Selective Reserve) are the members of a U.S. military Ready Reserve unit that are enrolled in the Ready Reserve program and the reserve unit that they are attached to. Selected Reserve members and units are considered to be in an active status.

When the term is applied to describing personnel, it is contrasted to the Full-time Reserve Unit Support (also called Full Time Support or FTS) members of the same reserve unit who are Active Duty. It is also contrasted to members of the Individual Ready Reserve who are not in active status.

A former active service member who was honorably discharged or retired. A former member of a Selected Reserve who was retired or honorably discharged or who served for at least one year.

With certain exceptions, active duty service beginning after Sept. 7, 1980, as an enlisted person, and after Oct. 16, 1981, as an officer, must be for a minimum of 24 consecutive months or the full period of active duty (as in the case of reservists or National Guard members called to active duty for a limited duration).

Active duty for training, by itself, while serving in the reserves or National Guard, is not sufficient to confer eligibility. Reservists and National Guard members, are eligible if they were entitled to retired pay at the time of death, or would have been upon reaching requisite age

A members of the military who were discharged due to injury received in the line of duty. A service man or woman who died in the line of duty

Documents Accepted:

In addition to qualifying military service, the veteran must be able to prove his or her military service. This is most commonly done with the DD Form 214, which is the record of service each military member receives upon discharge (prior to 1950, each service used its own discharge form).

Thankfully, there are other ways to prove military service for last burial rights and other veteran's benefits beyond the DD Form 214. In many cases, you can provide an Honorable Discharge certificate, retirement order, military documentation from your state if you served in the Guard, or a variety of other documents.

Documents Required for Military Funeral Honors

The following is a list of approved Veterans Military Discharge Documents which will satisfy the VA requirements for proof of honorable military service. You can use these forms to establish eligibility for a military burial, or for requesting a headstone or marker. You can find the full list at the VA.

- Official Retirement Order
- Official Retirement Register
- Reserve Retirement Eligibility Benefits Letter
- Verification of Service letter from the VA
- Summary of Military Service Record From various states
- DD 214 – Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
- DA 1569 – Transcript of Military Record
- DD 2A – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2AF – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2CG – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2MC – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2N – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2NOAA – Armed Forces Identification Card (Active)
- DD 2 (Retired) – US Uniformed Services Identification Card
- DD 13 – Statement of Service
- DD 217 – Discharge Certificate
- DD 256A – Honorable Discharge Certificate
- DD 256AF – Honorable Discharge Certificate
- DD 256CG – Honorable Discharge Certificate
- DD 256MC – Honorable Discharge Certificate
- DD 256N – Honorable Discharge Certificate
- DD 257A – General Discharge Certificate
- DD 257AF – General Discharge Certificate
- DD 257CG – General Discharge Certificate
- DD 257MC – General Discharge Certificate
- DD 257N – General Discharge Certificate
- DD 303 – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge
- DD 303AF – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge
- DD 303CG – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge

DD 303MC – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge
 DD 303N – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge
 DD 1300 – Report of Casualty
 ADJ 545 – Discharge Certificate
 Army DS ODF – Honorable Discharge from the United States Army
 AGO 525 – Discharge Certificate
 AGO 755 – Discharge Certificate
 AGO 01252 – Discharge Certificate
 AGO 01254 – Transcript of Military Record
 AGO 01502 – Discharge Certificate
 WD AGO 53 – Enlisted Record and Report of Separation Honorable Discharge
 WD AGO 53-55 – Enlisted Record and Report of Separation Honorable Discharge
 WD AGO 53-58 – Enlisted Record and Report of Separation General Discharge
 WD AGO 53-90 – Certificate of Service
 WD AGO 53-98 – Military Record and Report of Separation Certificate of Service
 WD AGO 55 – Honorable Discharge from The Army of the United States
 WD AGO 280 – Certificate of Service, AVS
 WD AGO 525 – Honorable Discharge from the United States Army
 WD AGO 755 – Honorable Discharge, Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps
 WD AGO 0729 – Honorable Discharge from Army of the United States of America
 WD AGO 01502 – Certificate in Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge Certificate
 WD AGO 01504 – Discharge Certificate
 Bureau of Investigation No. 6 – Discharge Certificate
 Bureau of Investigation No. 53 – Discharge Certificate
 Bureau of Investigation No. 118 – Discharge Certificate
 Bureau of Investigation No. 213 – Discharge from U. S. Naval Reserve Force
 Form No. 6, U.S.N. – Discharge Certificate
 Navy (No number) – War Service Certificate
 NAVCG-553 – Notice of Separation from U.S. Coast Guard
 NAVCG-2510 – Honorable Discharge, U.S. Coast Guard
 NAVMC-455 – U.S. Marine Corps Certificate of Service, In Lieu of Lost or Destroyed Discharge Certificate
 NAVMC 70-PD – Honorable Discharge, U.S. Marine Corps
 NAVMC 78-PD – U.S. Marine Corps Report of Separation
 NMC 258 A&I – Discharge Certificate
 NMC 2571 A&I – Honorable Discharge, U.S. Marine Corps
 NAVPERS-553 – Notice of Separation from U.S. Naval Service
 NAVPERS-563 – Navy Discharge-Notice of Separation from U.S. Naval Service
 NAVPERS-566 – Standard Statement of Service
 NAVPERS-660 – Honorable Discharge from U.S. Navy
 NAVPERS-661 – Certificate of Discharge, U.S. Naval Service
 NAVPERS-663B – Discharge Certificate
 NGB 22 – Report of Separation and Record of Service, Departments of the Army and the Air Force, National Guard Bureau
 GSA 6851 – Service Information
 GSA 6954 – Certificate of Military Service
 NAR 529 – Certification of Military Service
 NA 13038 – Certification of Military Service
 NA 13041 – Statement of Service
 VA Adjudication 545 – Summary of Record of Active Service
 VA 3101 – Request for Army Information
 Notes:

* A DD Form 256 or DD Form 257 must indicate a period of active duty service dates to be a valid document for eligibility determination purposes.

** Valid only if active duty service dates are indicated.

*** The DD Form 214 has been issued by all military services since January 1, 1950. Before January 1, 1950, several similar forms were used by the military services.

**** NGB Form 22 can be used to verify eligibility if it indicates prior active federal service other than for training or a minimum of 20 years total service for pay.