

PLAN TODAY. HONOR FOREVER.

PLANNING AND SCHEDULING A BURIAL AT A VA NATIONAL CEMETERY

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) ensures those who served this nation are never forgotten. VA operates 156 national cemeteries and maintains more than 4 million graves to honor their service and sacrifice. Burial services at VA national cemeteries are provided at no cost to eligible Veterans, their spouses, and qualifying family members.

If you've lost a loved one and need to plan a burial at a VA national cemetery, we are here to guide you through the process. In many cases, we can schedule the burial with a single phone call.

- 1. Gather Information and Documents:** Collect personal information identifying the deceased* and military documents showing the Veteran's qualifying service. If the Veteran's discharge documents are not readily available, do not delay calling the Scheduling Office; VA will get copies of them.
- 2. Decide on Burial Details:** Determine the cemetery location, type of burial, and whether you will be requesting military funeral honors. If you are using a funeral home, your funeral director will assist.
- 3. Contact the National Cemetery Administration:** Contact the National Cemetery Scheduling Office to schedule a burial. If you have a pre-need decision letter, VA will already have much of the required information.

*A death certificate is not usually required but may be in some cases. A representative will explain if needed.

National Cemetery Scheduling Office

To request a burial, call 800-535-1117 (TTY: 711)

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. ET,
and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET.



Scan for more information on burial in a VA national cemetery.
www.cem.va.gov/veterans-and-families

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
National Cemetery Administration

