

# VA *Benefits*

BURIAL & MEMORIAL  
SPOUSE & DEPENDENT



Snowline  
Health

## BURIAL AND MEMORIAL BENEFITS

Burial in a national Veterans' cemetery or a state Veterans' cemetery may be available to Veterans, their spouses and dependent children. At no cost to the family, a national or state cemetery burial may include:

- The gravesite and grave-liner
- Opening and closing of the grave
- A headstone or marker
- Perpetual care as part of a national shrine

If a Veteran is buried in a private cemetery anywhere in the world, the VA will provide headstone or marker.

A burial flag is available to drape the Veteran's casket or urn during the funeral.

Presidential Memorial Certificates honoring the Veteran may be requested.

Military Funeral Honors for the Veteran include burial flag folding and presentation of "Taps" played on a bugle or by recording.

Some veterans may be eligible for a limited burial allowance.

Funeral home directors usually arrange for these benefits on request.

The VA does not make funeral arrangements or perform cremations. Families should make these arrangements with a funeral or cremation provider. Any item or service obtained from a funeral home or cremation office will be at the family's expense.



## ELIGIBILITY

Veterans honorably discharged from active duty as well as spouses and dependent children of veterans may be eligible for VA burial and memorial benefits. The veteran does not have to pre-decease a spouse or dependent child for them to be eligible.

Active-duty service beginning after September 7, 1980 (enlisted) and after October 6, 1981 (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).

Eligibility is not established by active duty for training in the reserves or National Guard.

Reservists and National Guard members, as well as spouses and dependent children, are eligible if they were entitled to retired pay at the time of death, or would have been if over age 60.







The Veteran's Discharge Document (DD-214), showing period(s) of active service and characterization of discharge together with the certificate of death, are all you need in most cases to establish eligibility.

## SPOUSE & DEPENDENT DEATH PENSION

VA may provide pensions to low-income surviving spouses and unmarried children of deceased veterans with wartime service. The death pension provides a monthly payment to bring an eligible person's income to a level established by law. The payment is reduced by the annual income from other sources such as Social Security. The payment may be increased if the recipient has unreimbursed medical expenses that can be deducted from countable income.



Rates can be found at:





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**This is intended as an overview of benefits which may be available.**

If you would like more details about specific benefits, just ask a Snowline Health Social Worker.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has an abundance of information on their website at:

**[www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)**

We realize that sometimes it can be a challenge navigating a website. Please ask Snowline for information. We can help.



*You served us. Now, let us serve you.*



Snowline Health is a proud member of the “We Honor Veterans” and has attained its Level 5 Status as a top Veteran provider. By partnering with the Department of Veteran Affairs and its resources, Snowline is in a unique position to compassionately provide the care and support that properly reflects our nation’s deep appreciation for service to our country.

*Snowline is dedicated to helping Veterans by providing unique care, recognition ceremonies, Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer caretaking, and assistance with Veteran benefits and VA organizational structure.”*

## **Veteran Services Offices (VSOs)**

El Dorado County 530.621.5892

Placer County 916.780.3290

Sacramento County 916.874.6811

CalVet Veterans Services Division 877.741.8532

530.621.7820

916.817.2338

[snowlinehealth.org](https://snowlinehealth.org)

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