

## Burial Benefits

### *NEED DD214 or Discharge Certificate*

#### Eligibility Requirements:

- CLAIMANT: you are the spouse, child, parent, estate executor, family member or friend, or funeral home representative of the veteran
- You have paid for the Veteran's burial or funeral in part or in full AND
- You have not otherwise been reimbursed by another agency AND
- The veteran was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable AND
- The veteran is receiving pension OR compensation OR passes under VA care (hospitalized or non-VA facility contracted care or while a patient at VA Nursing Home)
- **Death certificate, discharge paperwork/DD214, and paid funeral/burial statement**
- NOT COVERED: active duty, federal prisoner, or members of Congress

#### Service Related Death Burial Allowance:

- VA pays up to \$2000 for Funeral/Burial of vets receiving VA Compensation or Pension payments (entitled/waivered), for deaths after September 11, 2001
- VA pays up to \$1500 for deaths prior to September 11, 2001
- If buried in a VA cemetery, some or all transportation costs can be covered
- No time limit to file
- Surviving Spouse payment is automatic

#### Non-Service Related Death Burial Allowance:

- Must be claimed within 2 years of passing (unless vet passed receiving VA medical care)
- VA pays up to **\$978 for burial and funeral** expenses if the veteran passes in a VA facility or is hospitalized by the VA at passing, on or after October 1, 2024 (no time limit)
- \$300 if not hospitalized by the VA at passing (filed within 2 years)
- **AND \$978 for plot/internment** if not buried in a national cemetery

#### Burial in State/National\* VA Cemetery

- Helena, Miles City, Laurel\* and Missoula
- Manager: Matt Manning (406) 721-2995  
MVADcemeteries@mt.gov

#### Headstones, Markers, and Medallions

- Any eligible veteran, any cemetery, free with free delivery
- Can be ordered at any time
- One-time benefit
- One form of memorial marker per veteran
- Spouse info NOT included

#### Presidential Memorial Certificate

- Issued to Next of Kin
- Recognizes honorable service

#### Burial Flags

- Available to any veteran who was not dishonorably discharged
- Can be obtained at Funeral Home, Post office, or VA Office

#### Military Funeral Honors

- Inform Funeral Director of request
- Service provided by DoD/volunteers

## Pension, Survivor, Death and Burial Benefits



### Montana Veterans Affairs Division/American Legion/VFW

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8:30-12, 1-4:30 M, T, W, F

## VA Nursing Homes

- Honorably discharged
- Medically qualified for nursing home or assisted living care
- Spouses admitted on space-available basis
- Both veteran and spouse may be admitted if both qualify for nursing home care

Southwest Montana Veterans Home, Butte  
406-792-3100

Montana Veterans Home, Columbia Falls  
406-892-3256

Eastern Montana Veterans Home, Glendive  
406-377-8115

## Pension

Financial assistance to **wartime** veterans

### **Low Income Pension**

- Discharge is other than dishonorable AND
- 90 days of active military service prior to Sept 7, 1980; after Sept 7, 1980 need 24 months service or completion of entire duty tour AND
- At least 1 day in a wartime era
  - WWII: Dec 7, 1941 – Dec 31, 1946
  - Korean War: June 27, 1950 – January 31, 1955
  - Vietnam War: Aug 5, 1964 – May 7, 1975 (In country only Feb 26, 1961)
  - Gulf War: August 2, 1990 to Present
- Income below the maximum rate AND
- Net worth meets limitations AND
- Is age 65 or older OR is SSDI/nursing home/permanent and totally disabled

## **Aid and Attendance/Housebound**

Increased monthly pension for a veteran or surviving spouse

- Require the aid of another person for ADL's
- Bedridden OR
- In a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity OR
- Legal blindness (visual acuity of 5/200 or less in both eyes or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less)
- Have and single and permanent disability rate at 100% disabling AND
- Due to that disability, you are permanently and substantially confined OR have other disability(s) independently evaluated at 60% or more disabling
- NEED COPY OF DD214/DISCHARGE PAPERS

## Survivors Pension or Death Pension

Financial assistance for any age low income spouses and young/disabled children of wartime veterans

**Spouse:** (married 1 year plus)

- Basic pension service, wartime, discharge, and income/net worth qualifications
- Married to the veteran at the time of passing
- Or widowed/divorced AND un-remarried

**Child:**

- Basic pension service, wartime, discharge, and income/net worth qualifications
- Under the age of 18 OR between the ages of 18 and 23 and attending school

- OR Permanently incapable of self-support due to a disability incurred before age 18 (legally)

## DIC Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Benefit paid to eligible survivors of service members who died in the line of duty OR due to a service connected condition OR veteran is 100% disabled for at least 10 years at the time of passing

**Spouse:** (married minimum of 1 year prior to death)

- Married to the veteran at the time of passing
- NOT remarried until after the age of 57

**Child:**

- Not included on the spouse's DIC award as a dependent AND
- Unmarried AND
- Under the age of 18 OR between the ages of 18 and 23 and attending school
- OR permanently incapable of self-support due to a disability incurred before age 18

## CHAMPVA

Civilian Health And Medical Program of the VA

- Spouses and children of eligible veterans NOT eligible for TRICARE
- Spouses and children eligible for DIC benefits
- Spouses and children of veterans that are 100% SC (living or deceased)
- Application is required to enroll
- THIS IS A REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM
- Medical services paid in full
- Claims submitted for services