

Death Benefits Guide



FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

PLANNING FOR YOUR FAMILY'S FUTURE

A death in the family too often finds the survivors ill-prepared to cope with the loss. That lack of preparation, and particularly the lack of information, is why we have prepared this booklet for the families of deceased veterans.

To ensure the booklet is as helpful as possible, we encourage each veteran to thoroughly complete the “Personal Family Data” section. That personal information, along with information on the programs and services offered through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will provide answers to questions that may have otherwise gone unanswered.

In every instance, a DAV (Disabled American Veterans) National Service Officer can help you and your family when it's most needed, at no charge or obligation. They are your best resource when it comes to practical information on the broad range of VA programs and services, and they are experienced in helping to ease the burden when personal tragedy strikes.

DAV—its nationwide corps of benefits advocates and our more than 1 million members—stands ready to help. Please call on us when our services are needed.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Marc Burgess". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sincerely,
J. MARC BURGESS
National Adjutant

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DEATH BENEFITS

Certain benefits are available to eligible survivors of deceased veterans of wartime or peacetime service (other than training) who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Survivors of members of the Reserve and National Guard who died while performing, or as a result of performing, active duty for training may be eligible. Survivors of Merchant Marines who served from December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946, may also be eligible for benefits.

BURIAL

Certain benefits, described below, are available to assist with the burial expenses of veterans and certain dependents or survivors. Assistance with the burial of dependents and survivors is limited to interment in a national cemetery.

ELIGIBILITY

Burial Allowance for Service-Connected Death

Eligibility is established if the veteran died as a direct result of a service-connected disability, or if a service-connected disability was found by the Department of Veterans Affairs to be a contributing cause for the veteran's death.

VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after September 11, 2001. If the veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed.

Burial Allowance for Non-Service-Connected Death

For deaths in a VA hospital on or after October 1, 2011, VA will pay up to \$762 toward burial and funeral expenses. If the death happened while the veteran was in a VA hospital or under VA-contracted nursing home care, some or all of

the costs for transporting the veteran's remains may be reimbursed. Based on Public Law 111-275, this amount will see small increases every October 1st.

BURIAL IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES

ELIGIBILITY/BENEFIT

VA provides veterans and dependents a variety of gravesite options for burial, though choices are limited to those available at a specific cemetery. These may include a full casket burial or a columbarium or in-ground niche for cremated remains. A limited number of national cemeteries also provide a scatter garden for dispersing cremated remains.

Gravesites in national cemeteries cannot be reserved, but VA will honor reservations made under previous programs. The funeral director or the next of kin makes interment arrangements for an eligible veteran or dependent by contacting the national cemetery in which burial is desired. VA normally does not conduct burials on weekends. However, weekend callers will be directed to a national cemetery that can schedule burials for the following week.

Spouses and minor children of service members and eligible veterans may also be buried in a national cemetery. If a surviving spouse of an eligible veteran remarries, and that marriage is terminated by death or dissolved by annulment or divorce, the surviving spouse is eligible for burial in a national cemetery. Burial of minor children of eligible persons is limited to unmarried children under 21 years of age, or under 23 years of age if they were pursuing a full-time course of instruction at an approved educational institution. Eligible veterans' unmarried adult children who became physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support before reaching the age of 21, or 23 if a full-time student, also are eligible for burial.

Parents of veterans may be eligible for burial at a National Cemetery. A parent may be buried only within the veteran child's gravesite. No more than two parents are eligible for burial per deceased veteran child. Parent burial eligibility is subject to a determination by the Secretary that there is available space within the veteran's gravesite.

PRE-NEED ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERMENT IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY

The VA announced on December 8, 2016, it now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need. Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery.

Veterans and eligible spouses now can receive a determination on burial at VA National Cemetery prior to their death.

Veterans may submit VA Form 40-10007, Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office:

- Fax (toll-free) to 1-855-840-8299.
- Email to Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov.
- Mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

VETERANS' CEMETERIES ADMINISTERED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Arlington National Cemetery Administered by the Department of the Army. Eligibility for burial is more restrictive than at VA national cemeteries. For information, visit arlingtoncemetery.mil or call 877-907-8585, or write to the Superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA 22211.

Department of the Interior Two active national cemeteries are administered—Andersonville

National Cemetery in Georgia and Andrew Johnson National Cemetery in Tennessee. Eligibility for burial is similar to VA cemetery eligibility. For more information, visit www.cem.va.gov/cem/cems/doi.asp or write to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, or call 202-208-4747.

State Veterans Cemeteries Individual states operate cemeteries for veterans. Eligibility requirements may differ from those for national cemeteries. Contact the state cemetery or state veterans affairs office for additional information. To locate a state veterans cemetery, visit cem.va.gov.

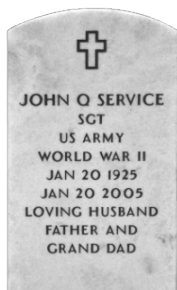
HEADSTONE OR GRAVE MARKER

BENEFIT

Flat bronze, granite or marble markers and upright granite and marble headstones are available. For national cemetery burials, the style chosen must be consistent with existing monuments at the location of the plot. Bronze niche-markers also are available to mark buried columbaria of cremated remains. Government-furnished headstones and markers must be inscribed with the name of the deceased, branch of service and the year of birth and death, in that order.

Headstones and markers may be inscribed with other items, including an authorized emblem of religious belief and, space permitting, additional text, including military grade, rate or rank, war service (such as “World War II”), complete dates of birth and death, military awards, military organizations and civilian or veteran affiliations. When burial or memorialization is in a national, state or military veterans cemetery, the headstone or marker must be ordered through cemetery officials. For information on available styles, or to request one, contact the appropriate cemetery.

To obtain a government-furnished headstone or marker for a private cemetery, you must apply for one through VA. The government will ship the headstone or marker free of charge but will not pay for its placement. Headstones and markers previously provided by the government may be replaced at government expense if they are badly deteriorated, illegible, stolen or vandalized. Eligible service members and veterans buried in private cemeteries whose deaths occurred on or after September 11, 2001, may receive a government-furnished headstone or marker regardless of whether or not the grave is already marked with a non-government marker.



sample headstone

To apply, complete VA Form 40-1330 (Application for Standard Government Headstone or Marker for Installation in a Private Cemetery or a State Veterans' Cemetery), which can be downloaded at www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf. Mail the completed form and a copy of the veteran's military service discharge certificate (DD214 or equivalent), or a copy of other documents establishing qualifying military service to:

Memorial Programs Service (41B)
Department of Veterans Affairs
5109 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903

Documents are not returned, so do not send originals. Documents may also be faxed to 1-800-455-7143. For additional information and application instructions, visit cem.va.gov.

VA provides memorial headstones and markers for eligible veterans whose remains were not recovered or identified, were buried at sea, donated to science or cremated and scattered. "In

Memory of” is the mandatory first line. Eligible dependents may be memorialized only in national or state veterans cemeteries. To be memorialized, dependents do not need to outlive the veteran on whom their eligibility is based. Memorial headstones or markers must be placed in national, state veterans, local or private cemeteries. VA supplies and ships memorial headstones and markers free of charge for placement in state, local and private cemeteries but does not pay for their plots or placement.

BURIAL FLAGS

BENEFIT

A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased veteran who served honorably in the U.S. armed forces. It is furnished to honor the memory of a veteran’s military service to his or her country. Generally, the flag is given to the next of kin, as a keepsake after its use during the funeral service. When the veteran is buried at a national cemetery, the flag may be donated to that cemetery’s Avenue of Flags.

You may apply for the flag by completing VA Form 21-2008 (Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes). Flags are also available through any VA regional office or U.S. post office. Generally, the funeral director will help you obtain the flag.

MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS

BENEFIT

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for providing military funeral honors. “Honoring Those Who Served” is the title of the DOD program for providing dignified military funeral honors to veterans who have defended our nation.

The law requires that, upon request, every eligible veteran receive a military funeral honors ceremony to include folding and presenting the United States burial flag and playing of “Taps.” The law defines a military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military persons with at least one member of the veteran’s parent service of the Armed Forces. The DOD program calls for funeral home directors to request military funeral honors on behalf of the veteran’s family. VA national cemetery staff can also assist with arranging military funeral honors.

For more information on military funeral honors, visit www.militaryfuneralhonors.osd.mil or write to:

Office of the Assistant Secretary
of Defense for Public Affairs
Community Relations and Public Liaison
1400 Defense Pentagon, Room 2D982
Washington, DC 20301-1400

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATES

ELIGIBILITY/BENEFIT

Certificates signed by the president to recognize the military service of honorably discharged deceased veterans are issued upon request. Next of kin and loved ones may request Presidential Memorial Certificates in person at any VA regional office, by toll-free fax at 1-800-455-7143 (you must use VA Form 40-0247, Application for a Presidential Memorial Certificate, and submit supporting documentation) or by mailing the forms to:

Presidential Memorial Certificates (41A1C)
Department of Veterans Affairs
5109 Russell Road
Quantico, VA 22134-3903

The veteran’s discharge document and death certificate must accompany the VA Form 40-0247.

Applications take approximately eight weeks to process. Make sure to indicate to what address the certificate should be sent. For questions concerning the application, call (202) 565-4964. Additional information and a sample certificate can be found at www.cem.va.gov/pmc.asp.

SURVIVORS

DEFINITION OF SURVIVING SPOUSE

Date of Marriage To qualify, a surviving spouse generally must have been married to the veteran one year or more. This minimum does not apply if a child was born of or before the marriage. Additional conditions may apply in certain cases.

Residence with the Veteran The surviving spouse must have lived continuously with the veteran from the time of marriage until the veteran's death, except where there was a separation not due to the fault of the surviving spouse.

Surviving Spouse Remarriage A surviving spouse who has remarried is ineligible, unless the remarriage was void, annulled or terminated in death or divorce.* A surviving spouse may be ineligible if, after the death of the veteran, he or she has lived with another man or woman and held him or herself out openly to the public as the spouse.

***Eligibility for a Surviving Spouse Who Remarried** A surviving spouse who remarries on or after age 57, and on or after December 16, 2003, may continue to receive dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC). A surviving spouse who remarried before December 16, 2003, at age 57 or older must have applied no later than December 15, 2004, to have DIC restored.

Deemed-Valid Marriage A spouse who married a veteran without knowing that a legal impediment to the marriage existed may be eligible for compensation under certain conditions, as long as the other qualifications are met.

DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION

Eligibility

DIC payments for death due to service-connected disability are authorized for:

- Surviving spouses
- Unmarried children under 18
- Helpless children as defined by VA
- Children ages 18-23 attending a VA-approved school
- Dependent parents

Service personnel or veterans

- Member of the armed forces who died while on active duty
- Veteran whose death resulted from a service-related injury or illness
- Veteran whose death resulted from a non-service-related injury or illness and who was receiving, or was entitled to receive, 100 percent compensation for 10 consecutive years prior to death
- Veteran who was rated 100 percent from the time of release from service for five years immediately following service
- POW who died and was rated 100 percent for one year before death

If death occurred after service, the veteran's discharge must have been under conditions other than dishonorable.

SURVIVING SPOUSE

FOR A VETERAN'S DEATH ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 1993

- Basic monthly rate is \$1283.11.
- Add \$272.46 if, at the time of the veteran's death, the veteran was in receipt of, or entitled to receive, compensation for a service-connected disability rated totally disabling (including a rating based on individual

unemployability) for a continuous period of at least eight years immediately preceding death, and the surviving spouse was married to the veteran for those same eight years.

- Add an allowance of \$317.87 for each dependent child.
- If the surviving spouse is entitled to aid and attendance (A&A), an additional \$317.87 will be paid.
- If the surviving spouse is housebound, an additional \$148.91 will be paid.

The above rates went into effect December 1, 2016. For the most current rates, visit benefits.va.gov/compensation/rates-index.asp.

REINSTATED ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS

ELIGIBILITY/BENEFIT

Certain survivors of deceased veterans who died of service-connected causes incurred or aggravated during service prior to August 13, 1981, may be eligible for benefits. The benefits are similar to the benefits for students and surviving spouses with children between ages 16 and 18 who were eliminated from the Social Security Act. The benefits are payable in addition to any other benefits to which the family may also be entitled. The amount of benefits is based on information obtained from the Social Security Administration.

DEATH COMPENSATION RELATING TO DEATHS BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1957

ELIGIBILITY

Survivors with eligibility for death compensation benefits may elect to receive DIC benefits, as they will pay greater rates, especially for surviving spouses and children. More specific information about death compensation benefits may be obtained

from your nearest DAV National Service Office. The VA office processing the claim will notify the survivor about dual entitlement and will explain how to elect payments under the DIC program.

NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED DEATH PENSION

INTRODUCTION

The Survivor's Pension benefit, which may also be referred to as a Non-Service-Connected Death Pension, is a tax-free monetary benefit payable to a low-income, un-remarried surviving spouse and/or unmarried child(ren) of a deceased veteran with wartime service.

ELIGIBILITY

The deceased veteran must have met the following service requirements:

- For service on or before September 7, 1980, the veteran must have served at least 90 days of active military service, with at least one day during wartime.
- Veterans who entered active duty after September 7, 1980, generally must have served at least 24 months or the full period for which called or ordered to active duty with at least one day during wartime.
- The veteran must have been discharged from service under other than dishonorable conditions.

The Qualification for a Survivor's Pension is also based on yearly family income, which must be less than the amount set by Congress.

While an un-remarried spouse is eligible at any age, a child of a deceased wartime veteran must be:

- Under 18, or
- Under age 23 if attending a VA-approved school or
- Permanently incapable of self-support due to a disability before age 18.

SURVIVORS' AND DEPENDENTS' EDUCATION

DEPENDENTS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Dependents' Education Assistance provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of certain veterans. The program offers up to 45 months of education benefits. These benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeships and on-the-job training. Spouses may also qualify for correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances.

ELIGIBILITY

You must be the son, daughter or spouse of:

- A veteran who died or is permanently and totally disabled as the result of a service-connected disability. The disability must arise out of active service in the armed forces.
- A veteran who died from any cause while such permanent and total service-connected disability was in existence.
- A service member missing in action or captured in the line of duty by a hostile force.
- A service member forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by a foreign government or power.
- A service member who is hospitalized or receiving outpatient treatment for a service-connected permanent and total disability and is likely to be discharged for that disability. (This requirement took effect December 23, 2006.)

PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY

Children of veterans must be between the ages of 18 and 26 to receive benefits for attending school or job training. In certain cases, it is possible to begin before age 18 and to continue beyond

age 26. Marriage is not a bar to this benefit. If you are in the armed forces, you may not receive this benefit while on active duty. To pursue training after military service, your discharge must not be under dishonorable conditions. VA can extend your period of eligibility by the number of months and days equal to the time spent on active duty. Generally, this extension does not extend beyond your 31st birthday, although there are some exceptions.

If you are a spouse, benefits end 10 years from the date VA finds you eligible, or from the date of the veteran's death. If VA rated the veteran permanently and totally disabled with an effective date of three years from discharge, a spouse will remain eligible for 20 years from the effective date of the rating. This change was effective October 10, 2008, and no benefits may be paid for any training taken prior to that date.

For surviving spouses (spouses of service members who died on active duty), benefits end 20 years from the date of death.

WORK-STUDY

Participants must train at a three-quarter or full-time rate. They may be paid in advance 40 percent of the amount specified in the work-study agreement, or an amount equal to 50 times the applicable minimum wage, whichever is less. Under the supervision of a VA employee, participants may provide outreach services, prepare and process VA paperwork, work at a VA medical facility or perform other approved activities. They may also help at national or state veterans' cemeteries or assist in outreach services furnished by state approving agencies.

COUNSELING SERVICES

VA may provide counseling services to help an eligible dependent pursue an educational or vocational objective.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

An eligible child over age 14 with a physical or mental disability that impairs pursuit of an educational program may receive special restorative training to reduce or overcome that impairment. This training may include speech and voice correction, language retraining, lip reading, auditory training, Braille reading and writing and similar programs. Certain disabled or surviving spouses are also eligible for special restorative training. Specialized vocational training is also available to an eligible spouse or child over age 14 whose physical or mental disability prevents pursuit of an educational program.

MONTGOMERY GI BILL DEATH BENEFIT

VA will pay a special Montgomery GI Bill death benefit to a designated survivor in the event of a service-connected death while on active duty or within one year after discharge or release. The deceased must either have been entitled to educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill program or a participant in the program who would have been so entitled but for the high school diploma or length-of-service requirement. The amount paid will be equal to the participant's actual military pay reduction, less any education benefits paid.

HOME LOAN GUARANTY

The un-remarried surviving spouse of a veteran who died in service, or as the result of a service-connected disability, may be eligible for a guaranteed loan by a private lender.

The loan may be used to:

- Purchase, construct or improve a home;
- Purchase a manufactured home and/or lot; or
- Refinance existing mortgages or other liens of record on a dwelling owned by the surviving spouse as his or her home.

Application for this benefit using VA Form 26-1880 can be made at the nearest DAV National Service Office, or the application form may be completed at va.gov.

MEDICAL CARE

Individuals who have Medicare entitlement may also have CHAMPVA eligibility. CHAMPVA is always the secondary payer to Medicare. If you are eligible for CHAMPVA, under age 65 and enrolled in both Medicare Parts A and B, Social Security Administration documentation of enrollment in both Parts A and B is required.

For benefits to be extended past age 65, you must meet the following conditions:

- If you turned 65 before June 5, 2001, and only have Medicare Part A, you will be eligible for CHAMPVA without having to have Medicare Part B coverage.
- If you turned 65 on or before June 5, 2001, and have Medicare Parts A and B, you must keep both parts to be eligible.
- If you turned 65 on or after June 5, 2001, you must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B to be eligible.
- You are not required to enroll in Medicare Part D in order to become or remain eligible.

A surviving spouse under age 55 who remarries loses CHAMPVA eligibility on midnight of the date of remarriage. However, eligibility may be re-established if the remarriage is terminated by death, divorce or annulment, effective the first day of the month after the termination of the remarriage or December 1, 1999, whichever date is later. A CHAMPVA eligible surviving spouse who is 55 or older does not lose eligibility upon remarriage.

Individuals who have Medicare entitlement may also have CHAMPVA eligibility, secondary to Medicare. However, eligibility limitations apply to those with Medicare Part A only. The following

individuals must be enrolled in Medicare Part B to establish CHAMPVA eligibility:

- Under age 65 and entitled to Medicare Part A
- 65 or older when first eligible for CHAMPVA and entitled to Medicare Part A
- 65 or older prior to June 5, 2001, who are otherwise entitled to CHAMPVA and have Medicare Parts A and B
- 65 or older on or after June 5, 2001, who are entitled to Medicare Part A.

For additional information, or to apply for CHAMPVA benefits, visit the CHAMPVA web site at va.gov/PURCHASEDCARE/programs/dependents/champva/index.asp, or call 1-800-733-8387.

If you have a general question, or need information on payment or need to reprocess a denied claim, send your request to:

VA Health Administration Center
CHAMPVA
P.O. Box 469063
Denver CO 80246-9063

For submitting new health care claims only, use:

VA Health Administration Center
CHAMPVA Claims
P.O. Box 469064
Denver CO 80246-9064

LIFE INSURANCE

For information about government life insurance, call the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia toll-free at 1-800-669-8477. Specialists are available 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Eastern time. The specialists are trained to answer questions pertaining to premium payments, insurance dividends, address changes, policy loans, naming beneficiaries and reporting the death of the insured. After hours, you can leave a recorded message, which will be answered on the next business day, or you can use the interactive voice response system.

If the insurance policy number is not known, send whatever information is available, such as the veteran's VA file number, date of birth, Social Security number, military serial number or military service branch and dates of service to:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Regional Office and Insurance Center Box 42954
Philadelphia, PA 19101

FEDERAL RELATED BENEFITS

Civil Service Preference Certain surviving spouses and mothers of deceased veterans may qualify for hiring preference. For more information, contact the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or the employing agency.

Commissary and Exchange Privileges Available to un-remarried surviving spouses and dependents of:

- Retired members of the armed forces
- Recipients of the Medal of Honor
- Dependent military retirees
- Veterans who were rated by the VA as 100-percent permanent and total service-connected at time of death
- Honorably discharged veterans who are posthumously determined to have possessed service-connected disabilities rated as 100 percent.

PERSONAL FAMILY DATA

It's in the interest of every family to collect the information needed in the event of a veteran's death or incapacity. That information is detailed in the following pages. Once this document is filled out completely, it should be stored in a safe place, and the veteran's next of kin should know its location.

Maintaining this up-to-date record of the veteran's personal affairs and wishes can provide an invaluable service to his or her loved ones at the time of their greatest need. Spouses of veterans can obtain additional copies of this booklet for use in gathering their own personal data by writing to the address on the back cover of this booklet.

PERSONAL FAMILY DATA

Date Prepared _____

VITAL STATISTICS AND HISTORICAL RECORD

This is a permanent document. Print in ink or indelible pencil.

Full Name _____
First Middle Last

Social Security Number _____

Residence _____
Street Address

City State ZIP

Marital Status (check one):

Single Married Widowed Separated Divorced

Name of Spouse. If wife, enter maiden name:

Occupation of Spouse _____

Date of birth _____
Day Month Year

Birthplace _____
City or Town State or Country

Citizen of What Country _____

Usual Occupation _____

Number of Years in this Occupation _____

Industry or Business _____

Active or Retired _____

Father's Name _____

Father's Birthplace _____
State or Country

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Mother's Birthplace _____
State or Country

MY PREFERENCES FOR MEMORIAL SERVICES

Religious Denomination _____

Name of Preferred Clergyman or Reader _____

Church or Congregation _____

Location _____
State ZIP Phone Number

My remains are to be (circle one): Buried Cremated Donated

Newspaper Notice: My name as it should appear in the notice:

Which Local Newspaper _____

Lawyer's Name and Address _____

Executor's Name and Address _____

MILITARY SERVICE AND VA INFORMATION

Enlistment Date and Place _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

Service No. _____

Military Job Specialty _____

Geographic Area of Service _____

Awards/Decorations _____

Discharge Date and Place _____

VA Claims No. _____ Compensation % _____

Pension Amount _____

Type of Disability _____

DAV CLAIMS ADVOCATE CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

NAMES OF DAV CHAPTERS OR AUXILIARY UNITS

CONTACT PERSON FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS

The lawyer or trusted friend who may be consulted in regard to my personal or business affairs:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

FAMILY RECORDS LOCATION

Birth Certificate or Other Proof of Date of Birth of Self and of Each Member of Immediate Family (required by insurance companies and Social Security Administration)

Naturalization Papers (and number) _____

Marriage Certificate (necessary in order to establish claims for certain payments and benefits and in connection with the will and also Social Security and VA benefits) _____

Divorce Decree, Death Certificates or Certified Copies Thereof (in case of either spouse) _____

Other Important Papers

Will: I have executed a will. I have not executed a will.

Will Located at _____

Land Deeds _____

Home Mortgage _____

Automobile Title _____

Other _____

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I have executed a power of attorney dated _____

Month Day Year

Naming _____

Agent or Attorney-in-Fact

Address _____

INCOME TAX

Copies of my federal tax returns and related papers are located

at _____

Copies of _____ income tax returns and related

(Name of State)

papers located at _____

Copies of _____ income tax returns and related

(Name of State)

papers located at _____

INSURANCE

I have the following types of life insurance:

Government Commercial Both

Insurance Company _____

Policy Number _____

Amount _____

Payment Option _____

Policies Located at _____

Premium Receipts Located at _____

BANK ACCOUNTS

Type of Account _____

Checking or Savings, Joint or Individual

Location _____

Account No. _____

Name and Location of Bank

Make additional entries as necessary to show all bank accounts.

SAFE DEPOSIT BOX

Name of Bank or Trust Co. _____

Address _____

Location of Key _____

UNITED STATES WAR OR SAVINGS BOND

Located at _____

Person Designated as:

Co-Owner

Beneficiary

List War and Savings Bonds by Serial Numbers, Denomination
and Location:

(This is necessary to replace lost bonds.)

Stocks and Bonds and Securities _____

ONLINE ACCOUNTS

List your login information for all the important online accounts you use (i.e., banking, email, utilities, etc.).

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

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Account _____

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Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Account _____

URL _____

Username _____

Password _____

Attach additional pages as needed.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CHAMPVA800-733-8387

Direct Deposit800-333-1795

Enroll online GoDirect.org

Defense Finance & Accounting

Service (DFAS)888-332-7411

Headstones

(status of requests only)800-697-6947

Life Insurance

(VGLI and SGLI)800-419-1473

Life Insurance

(all other VA programs)800-669-8477

Social Security Information800-772-1213

Telecommunication Device

for the Deaf (TDD)800-829-4833

VA Education TRICARE (formerly CHAMPUS):

- tricare.mil
- Call your nearest military installation

Find the DAV National Service Office nearest you by visiting dav.org/veterans/find-your-local-office.





NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

3725 Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076
859-441-7300
Toll Free 877-426-2838

NATIONAL SERVICE AND LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS

807 Maine Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-554-3501

**TO GET HELP, VOLUNTEER
OR DONATE, VISIT:**

DAV.ORG