						TELST OT LE		
Department of Ver	terans Affairs	APPLICATIO	N FOR	UNITED	STA	TES FLAG FOR B	URIAL PURPOSES	
PRIVACY ACT NOTICE: VA will not dis uses (i.e., civil or criminal law enforcement, interest, the administration of VA programs Education and Rehabilitation Records - VA, provide the veteran's SSN by itself will not r in effect prior to January 1, 1975, and still in U.S.C. 5701). Information submitted is subj DESTROACTION AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	congressional communic; and delivery of VA benef published in the Federal I result in the denial of bene a effect. The requested info ect to verification through	ations, epidemiological or research its, verification of identity and stat Register. Your obligation to respon fits. VA will not deny an individu ormation is considered relevant an computer matching programs with	n studies, the c tus, and persor nd is required al benefits for d necessary to h other agencie	collection of money nuel administration to obtain or retain l refusing to provide determine entitlen es.	owed to t) as identif benefits. G his or her hent to ben	he United States, litigation in which th fied in the VA system of records, 58V iiving us the veteran's SSN account in r SSN unless the disclosure of the SSN effits under the law. The responses you	te United States is a party or has an A21/22, Compensation, Pension, Formation is voluntary. Refusal to I is required by a Federal Statute of law I submit are considered confidential (38	
RESPONDENT BURDEN: We need this in for this information. We estimate that you w OMB control number is displayed. You are www.whitehouse.gov/omb/library/OMBINV	ill need an average of 15 not required to respond to	minutes to review the instructions, a collection of information if this	find the infor number is not	mation, and comple displayed. Valid C	ete this for MB contr	m. VA cannot conduct or sponsor a co ol numbers can be located on the OM	ollection of information unless a valid	
IMPORTANT - Postmaster or other issuing official: Submit this form to the nearest VA regional office. Be sure to complete the stub at the bottom.								
INFORMATION ABOUT THE DECEASED VETERAN (Complete as much as possible)								
1. FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST NAME OF VETERAN (Print or type) 2. OTHER NAMES USED BY VETERAN (Print or type)								
3. VA FILE NUMBER	VA FILE NUMBER 4. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER				5. M	5. MILITARY SERVICE NUMBER/SERIAL NUMBER		
6. BRANCH OF SERVICE <i>(Check box)</i>								
7. DATE ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY Reserve)	(or Selected	ed 8. DATE RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY (or 9. I Selected Reserve)				TE OF BIRTH 1	0. DATE OF DEATH	
11. DATE OF BURIAL	12. PLACE OF BURIAL (Name of cemetery, city, and State)							
13. HAS DOCUMENTATION BEEN PRESENTED OR ATTACHED THAT SHOWS THE VETERAN MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA? (See Paragraphs C, D, and E of the "Instructions")								
	-	"Remarks" (See paragi						
							(Number and street or rural	
14A. NAME OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG 14B. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENT route, city or P.O., State and						(Number and street of fural		
14C. RELATIONSHIP TO VETERAN (See Paragraph F of the "Instructions")								
15. REMARKS								
I CERTIFY that the statements made in this document are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that the deceased veteran is eligible, in accordance with the attached instructions, for issue of a United States flag for burial purposes, and such flag has not been previously applied for or furnished.								
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Sign in INK) 17. ADDRESS OF APPLICANT (Number and street or rural route, city or P.O., and ZIP Code)						18. RELATIONSHIP TO DEC	EASED 19. DATE SIGNED	
PENALTY - The law provides that whoever makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false shall be punished by a fine, imprisonment, or both.								
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF FLAG								
I CERTIFY that the flag requested by the applicant will be used to drape the casket of the deceased in whose honor it is issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and that Item 6 of the "Use Of The Flag" instructions on the attached sheet will be complied with.								
SIGNATURE OF PERSON RECEIVING FLAG (Sign in INK)					DATE FLAG RECEIVED			
NAME AND ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT						VAUSE		
						DATE NOTIFICATION FORWARDED TO SUPPLY	INITIALS OF RESPONSIBLE VA EMPLOYEE	
VA FORM 21-2008, SEP 2005 SUPERSEDES VA FORM 21- 2008, MAY 2003, WHICH WILL NOT BE USED.								
This stub is to be completed by the POSTMASTER or other issuing official. Upon receipt the VA Regional Office will detach and forward it to the appropriate Supply Officer.								
NOTIFICATION OF ISSUANCE OF FLAG								
DATE FLAG ISSUED SIGNATURE OF POSTMASTER OR OTHER ISSUING OFFICIAL			ADDRESS OF POST OFF ISSUE POINT	ICE OR OTHER FLAG				

DATE FLAG ISSUED	SIGNATURE OF POSTMASTER OR OTHER ISSUING OFFICIAL	ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT				
FOR VA USE	DATE OF REPLACEMENT	•				
VA FORM 21-2008	SUPERSEDES VA FORM 21- 2008, MAY 2003,					

INSTRUCTIONS

A. How can I contact VA if I have questions?

If you have questions about this form, how to fill it out, or about benefits, contact your nearest VA regional office. You can locate the address of the nearest regional office in your telephone book blue pages under "United States Government, Veterans" or call 1-800-827-1000 (Hearing Impaired TDD line 1-800-829-4833). You may also contact VA by Internet at https://iris.va.gov/.

B. How do I apply for a burial flag?

Complete VA Form 21-2008, and submit it to a funeral director or a representative of the veteran or other organization having charge of the funeral arrangements or acting in the interest of the veteran. You may get a flag at any VA regional office or U.S. Post Office. When burial is in a national, State or military post cemetery, a burial flag will be provided.

C. Who is eligible for a burial flag?

Generally, veterans with an other than dishonorable discharge *Note:* This includes veterans who served in the Philippine military forces while such forces were in the service of the U.S. armed forces under the President's Order of July 26, 1941 and died on or after April 25, 1951, and veterans who served in the Philippine military services and are eligible for burial in a national cemetery

Veterans who were entitled to retired pay for service in the reserves, or would have been entitled to such pay but not for being under 60 years of age

Members or former members of the Selected Reserve (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Naval Reserve; Air National Guard; or Army National Guard) who served at least one enlistment or, in the case of an officer, the period of initial obligation, or were discharged for disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty, or died while a member of the Selected Reserve

D. Who is not eligible for a burial flag?

Veterans who received a dishonorable discharge

Members of the Selected Reserve whose last discharge from service was under conditions less favorable than honorable

Peacetime veterans who were discharged before June 27, 1950 and did not serve at least one complete enlistment or incur or aggravate a disability in the line of duty

Veterans who were convicted of a Federal capital crime and sentenced to death or life imprisonment, or were convicted of a State capital crime and sentenced to death or life imprisonment without parole, or were found to have committed a Federal or State capital crime but were not convicted by reason of not being available for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution

Discharged or rejected draftees, or members of the National Guard, who reported to camp in answer to the President's call for World War I service but who, when medically examined, were not finally accepted for military service

D. Who is not eligible for a burial flag? (Continued)

Persons who were discharged from World War I service prior to November 12, 1918, on their own application or solicitation by reason of being an alien, or any veterans discharged for alienage during a period of hostilities

Persons who served with any of the forces allied with the United States in any war, even though United States citizens, if they did not serve with the United States armed forces

Persons inducted for training and service who, before entering such training and service were transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps and given a furlough

Former temporary members of the United States Coast Guard Reserve

E. What documentation is required in order to receive a burial flag?

Provide a copy of the veteran's discharge documents that shows service dates and the character of service, such as DD Form 214, or verification of service from the veteran's service department or VA. Note: If the claimant is unable to provide documentary proof, a flag may be issued when a statement is made by a person of established character and reputation that he/she personally knows the deceased to have been a veteran who meets the eligibility criteria.

F. Who is eligible to receive a burial flag?

Only one flag may be issued for each deceased veteran. Generally, the flag is given to the next-of-kin as a keepsake after its use during the funeral service. The flag is given to the following person(s) in the order of precedence listed:

surviving spouse

children, according to age

parents, including adoptive, stepparents, and foster parents

brothers or sisters, including brothers or sisters of half blood

uncles or aunts

nephews or nieces

others, such as cousins or grandparents

When there is no next-of-kin, VA will furnish the flag to a friend making a request for it. If there is no living relative or one cannot be located, and no friend requests the flag, it must be returned to the nearest VA facility.

Note: The flag cannot be replaced if it is lost, destroyed, or stolen. Additionally, a flag may not be issued after burial unless it was impossible to obtain a flag in time to drape the casket or accompany the urn before burial. If the next-of-kin or friend is requesting the flag after the veteran's burial, he or she must personally sign the application and explain in Item 15 "Remarks" the reason that prevented timely application for a burial flag.

USE OF THE FLAG

1. This flag is issued on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs to honor the memory of one who has served our country.

2. When used to drape the casket, the flag should be placed as follows:

(a) Closed Casket - When the flag is used to drape a closed casket, it should be so placed that the union (blue field) is at the head and over the left shoulder of the deceased.

(b) Half Couch (Open) - When the flag is used to drape a half-couch casket, it should be placed in three layers to cover the closed half of the casket in such a manner that the blue field will be the top fold, next to the open portion of the casket on the deceased's left.

(c) Full Couch (Open) - When the flag is used to drape a full-couch casket, it should be folded in a triangular shape and placed in the center part of the head panel of the casket cap, just above the left shoulder of the deceased.

3. During a military commitment ceremony, the flag which was used to drape the casket is held waist high over the grave by the pallbearers and, immediately after the sounding of "Taps," is folded in accordance with the illustration below.

5. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground. When taken from the casket, it should be folded as shown (see illustration).

6. The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of the unveiling of a statue or monument, but it should never be used as a covering for the statue or monument.

7. The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stowed in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.

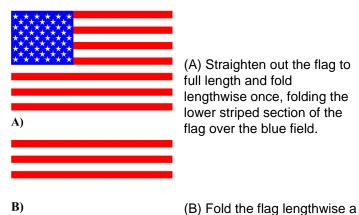
8. The flag should never have placed upon it, nor any part of it, nor attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.

9. The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

10. The flag, when badly worn, torn, or soiled should no longer be publicly displayed, but privately destroyed by burning in such a manner as to convey no suggestion of disrespect or irreverence.

4. Folding the flag (see illustration below):

CORRECT METHOD OF FOLDING THE UNITED STATES FLAG



(A) Straighten out the flag to full length and fold lengthwise once, folding the lower striped section of the flag over the blue field.

second time to meet the

view.

open edge, making sure that

the union of stars on the blue

field remains outward in full



D)





(C) A triangular fold is then started by bringing the striped corner of the folded edge to the open edge.

(D) The outer point is then turned inward, parallel with the open edge to form a second triangle.

(E) The diagonal or triangular folding is continued toward the blue union until the end is reached, with only the blue showing and the form being that of a cocked (three corner) hat.