

**Arranging for Burial in the
HAWAII STATE VETERANS CEMETERY**

Burial in the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery is an honor reserved for veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and their eligible dependents. The Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery maintains this tradition on behalf of a grateful nation.

- Gravesites in Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery (HSVC) cannot be reserved in advance. However, families are encouraged to prepare in advance by discussing cemetery options, and by collecting the veteran's military information.
- Burial use: This cemetery is for veterans, their spouses, and minor children who are under 21 years of age or under 23 years of age if pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution. Unmarried adult children who are physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support before reaching the age of 21 years are also eligible for burial. Family members utilize a one-grave concept with interments at 6', 8' and 10' depths. Cremains may be placed in a niche in the columbarium wall or inurned in a ground plot.
- HSVC will provide a gravesite, marker, perpetual care of the gravesite, and will open and close the grave. **The veteran's family must pay for Mortuary services provided by Funeral Directors and other related costs, usually including transportation of remains.**
- **COST:** The Department of Veterans Affairs will pay the plot/interment allowance fee* for wartime and peacetime veterans. The plot allowance fee does not apply to the MEMORIAL WALL where the ashes are scattered, there is no charge for the placement of a Memorial Marker. Fees are subject to change without notification.
- Vaults or Grave Liner: A Polyguard vault liner for casketed burials is provided by the State, HSVC. (Subject to change upon availability of funds.) HSVC does not provide Urn Vaults, but may be purchased through a mortuary of your choice.
- To establish burial eligibility in the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, a copy of the veteran's official military discharge document with the character of discharge is required, i.e., *DD214, WDAGO 53-55, or VA Statement of Service verifying the veteran's military service.* (The discharge certificate alone is not sufficient.) The following information must also be provided: The veteran's full name; rank; branch of service; date of entry and discharge of service, Social Security number and VA claim number; date of birth; and date of death.
- At the time of need, the Funeral Director shall contact the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery on behalf of the family to schedule the interment date. If the family is not using the services of a mortuary, the family may call direct to arrange for burial date and time.
- The same procedures are followed if the veteran's eligible spouse or dependent predeceases the veteran. In most cases, one gravesite is provided for the burial of all eligible family members and a single marker is provided. When both spouses are veterans, two gravesites and two headstones may be provided, if requested.

- **HEADSTONE: Flat Granite Markers** (for ground burial) **and Bronze Markers** (for Columbarium wall niche) are ordered by HSVC. Upon arrival, markers are emplaced on the gravesite or niche.
- **Funeral services are not held at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery**, but a final Committal Service may be held at the cemetery not to exceed ten (10) minutes in length. Viewing facilities are not available. Banquet facilities are also not available.
- For safety reason, these Committal Services are held in a Committal Shelter located away from the gravesite and Columbarium. Burial will take place in private by the cemetery following the Committal Service.
- HSVC does not conduct burials on the weekends and/or State holidays.
- Casket or urn sprays may accompany the casket or urn. If floral arrangements have already been viewed at a previous Memorial Service, it will be place directly on the gravesite.
- **MILITARY HONORS:** If military honors are desired, the Mortuary will arrange for the military honors prior to the Committal Service, by calling the appropriate military service organization to see if it can be provided.
- In absence of military honors, the cemetery staff may play a recorded version of Taps at the Committal Shelter.
- Full military honors will be provided for retirees only, which may consist of uniformed pallbearers, flag-folding detail, rifle salute, and a bugler playing Taps, and a chaplain. If requested, the detail may be modified or shortened to be consistent with the number of people available to provide honors. Veterans will be provided a bugler, and a minimum of a two-person team to fold and present the flag.
- **BURIAL FLAG:** The Department of Veterans Affairs will provide one burial flag per veteran. Most veterans, reservists and former reservists are eligible to receive a burial flag. At the time of need, request for a burial flag will be made through the mortuary; HSVC will assist the family in requesting a burial flag.
- For additional information or assistance, write to:

HAWAII STATE VETERANS CEMETERY

45-349 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744 or call

(808) 369-3575 Fax No. (808) 233-3633