



Welcome to the Southern Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery

We are located at 1300 Buffalo Soldier Trail in Sierra Vista, Arizona. Take Exit 302 and drive south from I-10 approx. 30 miles. We are located 1 mile south of the main gate of Ft. Huachuca.

The cemetery is located on 145 acres of high desert landscaped property at the base of the Huachuca Mountains. Phase one of the cemetery includes 2,600 burial plots and 2,600 columbarium niches. Three phases are planned. We expect to reach capacity well after the year 2030.

The cemetery was made possible by a grant from the Department of Veterans' Affairs to the State of Arizona, authorizing the State to operate and maintain the Veterans' Cemetery.

Our first interment occurred December 3, 2002. Reservations are not accepted. Interment is on a first come, first served basis.

BURIAL BENEFITS

Burial in the Veterans' Cemetery is open to all members of the Armed Forces, and with certain exceptions, veterans discharged from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable. Their spouses, unremarried widow or widower, minor children, and under certain conditions, unmarried adult dependent children are also eligible for burial. Eligible spouses may be buried even if they predecease the

veteran. Also eligible for burial are members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, National Guard, and Reserve Officer Training Corps who die while on active duty for training or performing service, or who have 20 years of service in reserve components of the Armed Forces creditable for retired pay.

Burial in the cemetery includes a gravesite, opening and closing of the gravesite, a concrete liner (casket burials only), government marker, and perpetual care at no cost. Spaces are assigned at the time of need and may not be reserved. SAVMC provides two gravesite options: in-ground casket burial and columbaria for cremated remains!

COMMITTAL SERVICES

All services are held at the committal shelter rather than at the gravesite. This insures the family's safety and provided a fitting location for military honors, along with the ability of our staff to continue burial operations. The date and time of committal services are scheduled once eligibility has been determined.

BURIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The next of kin or the family's funeral director of choice may make arrangements directly with SAVMC staff. Before burial can take place, cemetery staff must verify the veteran's eligibility. To do this, the cemetery staff must be provided a copy of the veteran's properly signed discharge papers, or the veteran's service, social security, and VA claim numbers. There is

no charge for interment for veterans and a one time nominal fee of \$300 for eligible spouses and dependents.

HONOR GUARD AND CLERGY

The engaging of clergy, buglers, and military honor guards is done by the family or their funeral director. The cemetery does not provide these services.

MARKERS AND INSCRIPTIONS

Immediately after the interment, each gravesite is marked with a temporary grave marker. Within five days, the permanent marker is electronically ordered based on information provided by the family on the interment application. Delivery and installation of the marker is normally completed within ninety (90) days.

CEMETERY PROCEDURES

The cemetery serves as a national shrine and therefore, its procedures have been designed to ensure that its beauty, dignity and reverent atmosphere are preserved. Please adhere to the following while on the cemetery grounds:

- Do not bring pets
- No picnicking
- Place all litter in refuse containers
- Place all flowers according to the floral policy

Please discuss specific questions with the cemetery staff or your funeral director.



FLORAL POLICY

Fresh cut and artificial flowers are permitted at any time. Arrangement may not be more than 24 inches high.

All flowers will be removed on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month for ground maintenance operations, and when they become withered.

Temporary metal containers are available and are located in bins located throughout the cemetery. No more than two (2) vases per site are permitted on the grave year round. We request that you limit you flowers to one temporary container so that there are some available for all of our visitors.

The artificial flowers will be removed and stored inside bins for a period of one week near the administration building.

Small flags will be placed on graves by designated personnel one day before Memorial Day and removed one day thereafter. Flag standards will not be permitted at any time.

Permanent plantings, potted plants, statues, vigil lights and breakable objects of any nature and similar commemorative items are not permitted on graves at any time.

Holiday wreaths may be permitted from December 1st through January 5th.

No grave blankets are allowed at any time.

Floral items and other types of decorations attached to the headstone will not be permitted.

Florists will not be permitted to deliver flowers to a grave without taking away all boxes, wrapping paper or other packaging material.



Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

SOUTHERN

ARIZONA

VETERANS'

MEMORIAL

CEMETERY

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