

# CLAIM FOR COMMEMORATIVE URN OR PLAQUE FOR VETERANS' CREMAINS NOT INTERRED

## GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

**RESPONDENT BURDEN** - An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this project is 2900-0937, and it expires 05/31/2027. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per respondent, per year, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate and any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to VA Reports Clearance Officer at [VACOPaperworkReduAct@va.gov](mailto:VACOPaperworkReduAct@va.gov). Please refer to OMB Control No. 2900-0937 in any correspondence. Do not send your completed VA Form 40-1330UP to this email address.

**PRIVACY ACT** - VA considers the responses you submit confidential (38 U.S.C. 5701). VA may only disclose this information outside the VA if the disclosure is authorized under the Privacy Act, including the routine uses identified in the VA system of records, 48VA40B, published in the Federal Register. VA considers the requested information relevant and necessary to determine maximum benefits under the law.

### BENEFIT PROVIDED:

**a. COMMEMORATIVE URN:** The Walnut urn is 7.125" high, 7.25" wide and 9.25" in length with an interior capacity of approximately 280 cubic inches. There is a 5-inch etched emblem of a folded flag with the words Veteran and their branch of service on front of the urn. A black plate is affixed to the top of the urn with brass inscription of the Veteran's name, date of birth and date of death. Only one branch of service may be selected.



**b. COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE:** The walnut plaque is 10 inches long, 8 inches wide and 3/4 of an inch thick. There is a 5-inch etched emblem of a folded flag with the words Veteran and their branch of service. Below the emblem is a black plate with brass inscription with the Veteran's name, date of birth and date of death. There is a notched keyhole to allow the plaque to hang on a wall. Only one branch of service may be selected.



**WHO CAN BE COMMEMORATED BY AN URN OR PLAQUE** - A deceased Veteran who has been cremated with no portion of the remains interred\* at any location at the time of application, and who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable on or after April 6, 1917, or any Servicemember of the Armed Forces of the United States who dies on active duty whose remains have been cremated and is NOT interred at any location. Service after September 7, 1980 for enlisted personnel, and October 16, 1981 for officer personnel, must be for a minimum of 24 months continuous active duty or be completed under special circumstances, e.g., death on active duty. Persons who have only limited active duty service for training while in the National Guard or Reserves are not eligible unless there are special circumstances, e.g., death while on active duty, or as a result of training. Reservists and National Guard members who, at time of death, were entitled to retired pay, or would have been entitled, but for being under the age of 60, are eligible; please submit a copy of the Reserve Retirement Eligibility Benefits Letter with the claim. Reservists called to active duty other than training and National Guard members who are Federalized and who serve for the period called are eligible.

\* Interment means the burial or entombment of casketed or cremated remains, including the placement of cremated remains in a columbarium niche.

**BENEFITS FORFEITED IN-LIEU OF A COMMEMORATIVE URN OR PLAQUE** - A commemorative urn or plaque may only be provided in-lieu of other benefits that will be forfeited. If VA provides an urn or plaque for a Veteran or Servicemember, VA is prohibited from interring the Veteran or Servicemember in a VA national cemetery or providing a headstone or marker or medallion that would mark the Veteran's and Servicemember's grave. If VA provides an applicant a commemorative urn or plaque to commemorate a Veteran it may also negatively impact interment in other cemeteries including, but not limited to, cemeteries operated by the Department of Defense, including Arlington National Cemetery. VA encourages potential applicants for a commemorative urn or plaque who might seek interment in the future to check directly with other cemeteries regarding its effect on potential interment at those cemeteries. VA encourages careful consideration of the consequences before applying to VA for a commemorative urn or plaque. Many Veterans and family members consider the benefits which will be forfeited to be of greater monetary and symbolic value than an urn or plaque. Consideration should also be given to the future disposition of the remains of a Veteran or Servicemember for whom an urn or plaque has been provided. Because options for future interment are more limited, there is greater risk for remains to become lost or unclaimed throughout time. For these reasons, it is critical that the family member consider the final disposition of the Veteran's remains and be certain of their decision before completing this application for an urn or plaque.

**WHO MAY APPLY FOR AN URN OR PLAQUE TO COMMEMORATE A VETERAN** - The family member who holds the entirety of the cremated remains and is authorized to make decisions about the disposition of the Veteran. Family members include the decedent's spouse or individual who was in a legal union as defined in 38 CFR 3.1702(b)(1)(ii) with the decedent; a child, parent, or sibling of the decedent, whether biological, adopted, or step relation; and any lineal or collateral descendant of the decedent.

**HOW TO SUBMIT A CLAIM** - Please attach a copy of the deceased Veteran's discharge certificate (DD Form 214 or equivalent), the VA Pre-Need Eligibility Determination letter, or a copy of other official document(s) establishing qualifying military service. If you are unable to locate copies of military records, apply anyway, as VA will attempt to obtain records necessary to make an eligibility determination. **Do not send original documents;** they will not be returned.

**ELECTRONICALLY** submit your claim and supporting documents by using Quick Submit at [access.va.gov](https://access.va.gov). You will be instructed to register during your first sign-on attempt.

**If you prefer, you may MAIL** claims to: NCA FP Evidence Intake Center  
PO Box 5237  
Janesville, WI 53547

**ASSISTANCE NEEDED** - Should you have questions when filling out this form, you may contact our Applicant Assistance Unit toll free at: 1-800-697-6947, or at: [ask.va.gov](mailto:ask.va.gov). No fee should be paid in connection with the preparation of this claim.

**TRANSPORTATION AND DELIVERY OF URN OR PLAQUE** - VA will ship the commemorative urn or plaque without charge to the applicant designated in block 10a of the claim. **VA will not deliver an urn or plaque to a Post Office box.** The applicant must provide the full delivery address and telephone number. If you fail to include the required address and telephone number, we will not deliver the urn or plaque. Upon receipt, a signature will be required. Unless the urn or plaque was damaged during shipping, VA will not replace the product.



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**IMPORTANT:** Please read the General Information Sheet before completing this form. Type or print clearly all information except for signatures. Illegible printing could result in incorrect or delayed delivery. Failure to complete each block may result in delayed processing. *Blocks outlined in bold are optional inscription items. PLEASE INCLUDE MILITARY DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS.*

1. TYPE OF PRODUCT REQUESTED

☐ PLAQUE OR ☐ URN

### VETERAN'S SERVICE AND IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

2. NAME OF DECEASED VETERAN TO BE COMMEMORATED

FIRST (Or Initial)	MIDDLE (Or Initial)	LAST	SUFFIX (Sr., Jr., II, III, etc.)
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3. VETERAN'S SOCIAL SECURITY NO. (999-99-9999) AND/OR SERVICE NO.

SSN: SVC. NO.:

4. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Country)

5. VETERAN'S RACE AND/OR ETHNICITY (You may select more than one. Information will be used for statistical purposes only)

☐ ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN ☐ BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER ☐ WHITE  
☐ AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE ☐ HISPANIC OR LATINO ☐ NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO

6. SEX (Information will be used for statistical purposes only)

☐ FEMALE ☐ MALE

### PERIODS OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

7A. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	7B. DATE OF DEATH (MM/DD/YYYY)	8A. DATE ENTERED (MM/DD/YYYY)	8B. DATE SEPARATED (MM/DD/YYYY)
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9. BRANCH OF SERVICE (Select one)

☐ ARMY ☐ MARINE CORPS ☐ COAST GUARD ☐ MERCHANT MARINE ☐ NAVY ☐ AIR FORCE ☐ ARMY AIR FORCES (WWII)  
☐ SPACE FORCE ☐ PUBLIC HEALTH SVC. ☐ NATL. OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMIN. ☐ OTHER (Specify):

### APPLICANT INFORMATION AND CERTIFICATION

10A. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT  
(No., Street, City, State, and ZIP Code)

10B. DAYTIME PHONE NO.  
OF APPLICANT  
(999-999-9999)

10C. E-MAIL ADDRESS

### 11. BENEFITS FORFEITED IN-LIEU OF A COMMEMORATIVE URN OR PLAQUE

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### 12. CERTIFICATION

I certify the decedent's remains were cremated and are not interred in any location. (Interment means the burial or entombment of casketed or cremated remains, including the placement of cremated remains in a columbarium niche.)

I certify that I (full name), \_\_\_\_\_, understand and have considered the VA benefits that will be forfeited if I apply for, and VA provides, an urn or plaque (see Box 11 above); and I understand that interment in other cemeteries may be affected by the provision of a VA commemorative urn or plaque.

I certify that I am the \_\_\_\_\_ (familial relationship) of the Veteran or Servicemember (see Information Sheet and "Who May Apply");

I certify that I am the family member authorized to make decisions about the disposition of the decedent's cremated remains;

I certify that I am in possession of the entirety of the remains; and

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the decedent has never committed a serious crime, such as murder or other offenses that could have resulted in imprisonment for life, has never been convicted of a serious crime, and has never been convicted of a sexual offense for which the Veteran was sentenced to a minimum of life imprisonment or a period of 99 years or more.

**PENALTY:** The law provides severe penalties, which include fine or imprisonment, or both, for the willful submission of any statement or evidence of a material fact, knowing it to be false or for the fraudulent acceptance of any benefit to which you are not entitled.

13. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

14. DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)