We're here during this difficult time to assist families in obtaining federal or state benefits earned by their veteran's service in the Armed Forces, including: burial in a National Cemetery; provision of an American flag, headstone or marker; reimbursement of burial expenses; and pension.

All services are provided through the County of Ventura and, therefore, are free of charge.





he County of Ventura Human Services Agency provides public services that offer support, hope and opportunity for improved well-being. Our programs and services help ensure the protection of children, older adults, and dependent adults. We also provide a safety net for individuals and families who need assistance with basic necessities, such as food, housing and health care. Additionally, we help people secure employment through education, training, job search skills, and job placement.

#### **County of Ventura Veteran Services Main Office**

2901 N. Ventura Road, 3rd Floor, Oxnard, CA 93036

Phone: 805-477-5155 Fax: 805-477-5418

Field offices are located throughout Ventura County. Call 805-477-5155 to schedule an appointment or for more information.



Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 press



Referral line for health, human & community services.



vchsa.org/veterans

HSA-088 4/22

# Veteran Services Office

# Services offered to survivors of veterans



#### Honoring Our Fallen Heroes



# A Salute to Our Veterans

The Veteran Services Office was established in 1937 by the Ventura **County Board of** Supervisors to provide assistance to veterans, their dependents, and survivors in obtaining benefits from federal, state, and local agencies.

# With Compassion & Respect

#### The Veteran Services Office is here to help.

Veterans are not only national heroes; they are also someone's child, spouse, or parent. In the ultimate sacrifice, they have shown their bravery, honor, and love for their country. We extend our sincere condolences to the families of our fallen heroes for their loss and bereavement.

The County of Ventura Veteran Services Office is here during this difficult time to assist families in obtaining federal or state benefits earned by their veteran's service in the Armed Forces. These benefits may include burial in a National Cemetery; provision of an American flag, headstone or marker; reimbursement of burial expenses; and pension or compensation.



## **Burial in a National Cemetery**

A veteran may be entitled to burial in a National Cemetery. The veteran's spouse and minor children (and in some cases adult unmarried children) may also qualify for such burial.

### **American Flag**

As a show of respect, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) furnishes a United States flag to drape the casket or place with an urn for those who served in wartime; died on active duty after May 27, 1941; served in peacetime and left military service before June 27, 1950, after serving one enlistment or due a disability resulting from service; served after January 31, 1955, and in certain cases Selected Reserves; or those who served in the military forces of the Philippines while in service to the United States and died on or after April 25, 1951. The mortuary provides the flags, or they may be obtained from the USDVA or most local post offices. After the memorial service, the flag is given to the veteran's next of kin, close friend, or associate.

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

~ President John Fitzgerald Kennedy

## Headstone or Marker

All veterans with a discharge other than dishonorable are entitled to a free government headstone or marker.

#### **Reimbursement of Burial Expenses**

The USDVA may reimburse a portion of a veteran's burial expenses if he or she was entitled to USDVA pension or compensation at the time of death. Eligibility is also established when death occurs in either a USDVA medical facility to which a veteran was properly admitted or in a contract nursing home.

Veterans who served in wartime may be eligible for partial reimbursement of plot allowance if interred in a private cemetery. Reimbursements are subject to availability of funds. If a veteran's death was caused by a serviceconnected disability, the USDVA will reimburse a portion of burial expenses.

## **Death Pension**

If the veteran served 90 days or more on active duty during wartime, the surviving spouse and unmarried children under 18 (or 23 if attending school) may be eligible for pension benefits. The claimant's annual income may not exceed prescribed limitations.

#### **Dependency & Indemnity** Compensation

If the veteran's death was service-related, benefits (including education and medical) may be paid to survivors.

in claiming benefits. Discharge papers (needed for burial) Birth certificate(s) Marriage certificate Death certificate Divorce document(s) Government insurance policy number Social Security card(s)

#### **Important Documents**

To apply for these benefits, gather the documents listed below and bring them to the County of Ventura Veteran Services Office. The sooner you are able to seek assistance, the faster we will be able to help you

Burial receipts

Other Insurance Name & Policy Number:

Retirement Information (name of company/union, employee ID number):