



# LUKE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



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## MILITARY CASUALTY ASSISTANCE AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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Booklet includes Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TOPIC	PAGE
1. INFORMATION TO HAVE ON HAND	2-3
2. AIR FORCE / SPACE FORCE	4
3. ARMY	6
4. MARINE CORPS	7
5. NAVY	8
6. NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, and COAST GUARD	10
7. TAPS – Tragedy Assistance for Survivors *	12
8. GOLD STAR and SURVIVING FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE	13
9. DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SYSTEM	15
10. IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES inclusive of: DEERS, EXPRESS SCRIPTS, FED VIP, TRICARE, SOCIAL SECURITY (AZ), ARLINGTON, AND SUICIDE	20
11. CLAIM FOR UNPAID COMPENSATION OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES	24-25
12. *Addendum (1) TAPS – programs details	26-27
15. Any Other Questions	28

## INFORMATION

*Suggestion: When the time comes to make these calls, place the phone on the speaker and lay the phone down in such a position so that you can hear when it is your turn. Write a note about your questions – keep this note next to your phone.*

### **WHEN YOU CALL/CONTACT ANYONE ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE'S DEATH HAVE THE FOLLOWING ON HAND:**

1. Full Name (including middle name) of your Spouse.
2. DD214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty

What Is a DD214 Form? Your military discharge papers are officially known as DD Form 214, or just DD214. All veterans receive this Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty once they are out of the military. In a nutshell, the DD214 is proof of your military service. All branches use this same form.

Note for Reservists: Not every person associated with military service will have a DD214. If you're in the active or inactive reserves, you are technically not fully separated from your service. The same is true for anyone in the National Guard or those who haven't completed their service or been formerly discharged. Reserve members are only issued a DD Form 214 if they were on active duty. This document is usually given after initial training and separation from active duty after serving at least 90 consecutive days. If a person was a reserve member but was never activated, they won't get a DD Form 214. *(Google 01-23-24)*

3. Death Certificate: In Arizona, it is usually provided by the funeral home. However additional death certificates may be provided to the next of kin by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

<https://www.azdhs.gov/licensing/vital-records/index.php>

(note – right click and 'open hyperlink')

For other states:

<https://www.everplans.com/articles/state-by-state-death-certificate-ordering-information>

(note – right click and open hyperlink or text 'search')

4. Social Security Number
5. Date of Birth

Continued next page.

6. If your spouse had life insurance and/or DIC – have the policy number available.

**OR**

A Casualty Assistance Center is available **if you need additional help or in lieu of** the surviving spouse performing the reporting duties.

The Casualty Assistance Center serves as the primary point of contact for surviving spouses or other family members of active duty and retired service members. ... The Casualty Assistance Center also arranges military honors with funeral homes for all deceased Army personnel (active duty, retirees, veterans)



## **AIR FORCE / SPACE FORCE**

### **Air Force Casualty Operations**

#### **Mailing Address:**

Air Force Casualty Services  
550 C Street W  
JBSA-Randolph AFB, TX 78150

#### **Phone Numbers:**

TOLL-FREE: **800-525-0102**. Option 1. then Option 1  
COMM: 210-565-0102  
DSN: 665-0102

#### **Email**

**[AFPC.Casualty@us.af.mil](mailto:AFPC.Casualty@us.af.mil)**

If you are a surviving family member of a retired Air Force member residing in the United States, you can receive personal assistance in applying for eligible benefits on his or her behalf.

#### **You may contact one of the following organizations for assistance:**

The nearest Air Force base military personnel section customer.

The Air Force Casualty Assistance Representative Locator at

**877-353-6807.**

Voicemail is available after duty hours and individuals who leave a message will be called back the next duty day.

Retiree or Surviving Spouse Paycheck or SS Beneficiary Check contact the **Defense Finance and Accounting Service at 800-321-1080**

or visit them online at

**<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retireedeath.html>**.

If you are overseas contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Please have the following information available when making a notification:

- Retiree's full name, grade, Social Security number and date of retirement.
  - Date, city, and state of death.
  - Name, relationship, and phone number of next of kin.
  - For general officers - date and place of funeral, if known.
-



**ARMY**      Casualty Assistance – USA/Army Corps  
Community Services

Areas of Responsibility:

Arizona, Nevada, and California Counties:

Alpine, Fresno, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, Ventura

Mailing Address:

**CDR, USAICoE**

ATTN: IMHU-HRC

14 Rhea Avenue, Bldg 41421

Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-7004

Email:

[usarmy.huachuca.imcom-central.mbx.cac@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.huachuca.imcom-central.mbx.cac@mail.mil)

[Casualty Email](#)

Hours of Operation:

0730-1600 (Mountain Time) Monday through Friday

Phone Numbers:

Toll Free: **800-248-0759** (Mon-Fri)

FAX: 520-533-5411

LOCAL: **520-533-5033**

After Hours / Weekend / Holiday (**Active-Duty** cases):

(Please contact in the order listed below)

*Primary:* Cell: 520-508-1589 (only for Active-Duty cases)

For all others, please call the toll-free number (Mon-Fri).

*Secondary:* If unable to reach the above number, please contact the Installation Operations Center at: 520-5332291 or DSN 821-2291.



**USMC**

**Casualty Assistance - Marine Corps Community Services** <https://usmc-mccs.org> › services › benefits › casualty-assist...

The loss of a Marine is always difficult, especially for the family. Families expect to be informed of the cause and circumstances surrounding the loss of their loved one as soon as it is known. The Casualty Assistance Program is committed to ensuring the families of our fallen Marines are always treated with the utmost compassion, dignity, and honor. We actively seek to improve survivor assistance and have a demonstrated record of quick, effective action.

Website for USMC Casualty Assistance:

**<https://www.marines.mil/Portals/1/Publications/MCO%203040.4.pdf>**

If you are in need of **immediate** Casualty Assistance  
Please call **1-800-847-1597**.

We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Be prepared to wait in line for reporting (sometimes up to 40-60 minutes).  
You are not the only one reporting or asking for assistance in the US for their Marine.

**Location:** MCAS Yuma Marine Corps Base in Yuma, AZ



**NAVY**



**Casualty Assistance - Navy Community Services**

Navy Casualty (PERS-00C) is located in Millington, TN

- Casualty Operations (Death / Injury)

**Contact Information**

Toll Free - 1-800-368-3202 (**DUTY HOURS ONLY**)

**AFTER DUTY HOURS CALL 901-634-9279 FOR CASUALTY WATCH OFFICER**

Comm: (901) 874-2501

DSN: 882-2501

**Mailing Address**

Navy Casualty Assistance (PERS-00C)

5720 Integrity Drive

Millington, TN 38055-1300

- **Navy Gold Star**

**888-509-8759**

**[www.navygoldstar.com](http://www.navygoldstar.com)**

## **BLUE WATER AND PACT**

The Blue Water Navy (BWN) Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 ([PL 116-23](#)) extended the presumption of herbicide exposure, such as Agent Orange, to Veterans who served in the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975.

Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022, known (**PACT**) amends the Blue Water Act to include Thailand and Guam.

Veterans with questions about benefits or filing a claim can visit the [VA Agent Orange website](#) and [Compensation for Surviving Spouse and Dependents \(DIC\) website](#).

They can also call **1-800-749-8387**.

DIC eligibility for survivors of Blue Water Navy Vietnam, Thailand, and Guam Veterans

If we denied your Blue Water Navy/PACT Veteran's service-connected disability claim in the past, you may be eligible for DIC benefits based on the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 and/or PACT of 2022.

See [DIC eligibility information](#) and [how to apply](#).

Veterans who served on a Blue Water Navy vessel offshore of the Republic of Vietnam, or on another U.S. Navy or Coast Guard ship operating in the coastal waterways of Vietnam, Laos or Thailand between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, are now entitled to a presumption of [service connection for illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure](#). This is a result of Public Law 116-23, also known as the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 and the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022.

## NOAA, USPHS and USCG



- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**
- **United States Public Health Service**
- **United States Coast Guard**
  - Questions regarding your **Retired Pay** account:
    - Phone: 1-866-772-8724. All calls made to RAS-related calls are answered by the RAS Help Desk at 1-866-772-8724.
    - Fax: 785-339-3770
    - Email: [PPC-DG-CustomerCare@uscg.mil](mailto:PPC-DG-CustomerCare@uscg.mil)
    - Postal mail:
      - COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS)
      - U. S. COAST GUARD PAY & PERSONNEL CENTER
      - 444 SE QUINCY ST
      - TOPEKA KS 66683-3591
    - Please visit this web page for links to other helpful sites and information:
      - <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/>
  - **Reporting the Death of U.S. Coast Guard, PHS or NOAA Retiree or an annuitant, spouse, or former spouse**

Coast Guard Pay & Personnel Center's (PPC) Retiree and Annuitant Services (RAS) must be notified upon the **death of a retired Coast Guard, NOAA or PHS** member. Prompt notification is necessary so payment may be made of any funds due the retiree's eligible survivors.

The next of kin, or person representing next of kin, should **notify**

**PPC (RAS) by calling this toll-free number:**

**1 866 772 8724**

**Further assistance may be found at:**

○ **NOAA Corps Commissioned Personnel Center**

**Toll Free: 1 800-224-6622**

**Commercial: 301-713-3444**

**FAX: 301-713-4140**

○ **Coast Guard PSC RAS:**

**Toll Free: 1 800 772 8724**

**Commercial: 785 339 3415**

**Fax: 785 339 3770**

- or you may notify us in writing at: COMMANDING OFFICER (RAS) U. S. COAST GUARD PAY & PERSONNEL CENTER 444 SE QUINCY ST TOPEKA KS 66683-3591
- **United States Coast Guard Pay and Personnel Center (USCG PPC)**

**866-722-8724**

**[www.uscg.mil/ppc](http://www.uscg.mil/ppc)**

- **Information and forms that you may need are found at this website:**

**<https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/Portals/10/DOL/Base%20Alameda/Alameda-CACO-Handbook.pdf?ver=2017-03-27-070048-613>**

Document Entitled: PPCPUB 1800, Information for Survivors of USCG, USCGR, NOAA and PHS Retirees. Updated 11-04-21



## Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

**Description:** TAPS is the national organization providing compassionate care for all those grieving the death of a military loved one. Founded in 1994, the mission of TAPS is to provide peer-based emotional support to all those who are grieving the death of someone whose life included military service to the United States at no cost to surviving families and loved ones. THE MISSION OF TAPS. TAPS provides a variety of programs to survivors nationally and worldwide. Our National Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp has been held annually in Washington, D.C., over Memorial Day weekend since 1994. TAPS also conducts [regional survivor seminars for adults](#) and [youth programs](#) at locations across the country, as well as [retreats](#) and [expeditions](#) around the world. Staff can get you connected to [counseling in your community](#) and help [navigate benefits and resources](#).

If you are grieving the loss of a fallen service member, or if you know someone who can use our support, the [TAPS 24/7 National Military Survivor Helpline](#) \* is always available toll-free with loving support and resources at **800-959-TAPS (8277)**.

**Tax ID:** 92-0152268

**Headquarters:** [Washington, D.C.](#)

**Founded:** 2011

\*TAPS NATIONAL MILITARY SURVIVOR HELPLINE

Grief doesn't follow a schedule, and often some of the loneliest moments come at night, or on weekends or holidays. Yet we also understand the experience of being surrounded by people in the middle of an ordinary day, and still needing to connect with someone who cares.

When you feel as though your family and friends might be tired of listening, or no one answers, know that we'll have time for you, and we'll always answer. We're here for you at the other end of the TAPS National Military Survivor Helpline.

Printed with the approval of the Tragedy Assistance program for Survivors.

## **GOLD STAR AND SURVIVING FAMILY MEMBER**

### **REPRESENTATIVES <sup>(1)</sup>**

#### **U.S. Army**

Office: Installation Management Command G-9, Survivor Outreach Services

Phone number: 210-834-0494

Email: [usarmy.jbsa.imcom-hq.mbx.sos-survivor-advocate@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jbsa.imcom-hq.mbx.sos-survivor-advocate@mail.mil)

#### **U.S. Marine Corps**

Office: Long Term Assistance Program Office

Phone number: 866-210-3421, ext.2

Email: [Gold.Star.Advocate@usmc.mil](mailto:Gold.Star.Advocate@usmc.mil)

#### **U.S. Navy**

Office: Long Term Assistance Program Office

Phone number: 901-874-0083

Email: [MILL LTAP@navy.mil](mailto:MILL_LTAP@navy.mil)

#### **U.S. Air Force**

Office: Long Term Care Program Office

Phone number: 703-693-0683

Email: <https://www.afpc.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/1316662/gold-star-survivors-are-part-of-air-force-family-tree/>

## U.S. Coast Guard

Office: Coast Guard Casualty Matters Office

Phone number: 202-795-6637

If you are not satisfied with the casualty assistance provided by our service advocate, you may contact the DoD's Gold Star Advocate:

Department of Defense

Office: Casualty and Mortuary Affairs and Military Funeral Honors

As of February 1, 2023

VA will pay: 100% of the DIC payment.

DoD/DFAS will pay:

The full SBP monthly payment with no offset (no reduction) beginning on February 1, 2023.

The Special Survivor indemnity allowance (SSIA) was a benefit that was offset by the (DIC) payment from the VA SSIA will no longer be paid (dfas.org 2023)

- (1) MilitaryOneSource. The military connection: This newsletter provides resources for military survivors and can address many possible concerns survivors have today.

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/epublications/the-survivor-connection-enewsletter-archives/>

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>



## DFAS Defense Finance and Accounting System

### ALL Deaths – Retired Veteran and Surviving Spouse

#### Customer Service

**800-321-1080**

M-F, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET

#### **Report a Retiree's Death**

We are sorry for your loss. Although this is a difficult time, it's crucial to report the death of a military retiree promptly. Please follow the steps below to report the death as soon as possible.

#### **What You Need**

- **Retiree's name, social security number and date of death**
  - **Manner of death: natural, suicide, accident, homicide**
  - **Retiree's marital status upon death**
  - **Names and addresses of retiree's designated beneficiaries or next of kin, living and deceased**
- #### **DFAS How to Report a Retiree's Death**

1. To report a retiree's death:

A-Use our [convenient AskDFAS online form](#) - available online 24/7

**OR**

B-Call our [Customer Care Center](#) at 800-321-1080



**Upon notification of death, DFAS will stop monthly payments to prevent overpayment.**

2. After reporting the death to DFAS, you should **receive a letter containing the following documents:**
- SF 1174 Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Member of the Uniformed Service - – to claim the retiree’s Arrears of Pay
  - Annuity account forms and instructions (if the deceased retiree was enrolled in the Survivor Benefit Plan or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan)
3. **Complete the SF 1174** you received with your letter and
- submit it with a **copy of the retiree’s Death Certificate** that includes cause of death.
  - **include a completed [Direct Deposit Authorization \(DFAS-CL Form 1059\)](#)** with your SF 1174 to have an AOP payment direct deposited to your bank account.

Send to:

Upload a PDF of your completed/signed SF 1174 form and supporting documents via the **[AskDFAS online upload tool](#)** on DFAS.mil

**OR** mail to:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
U.S. Military Retired Pay  
8899 E 56th Street  
**Indianapolis IN 46249-1200**

**OR** fax to: 800-469-6559<sup>®</sup>

Please see the [How to Claim a Retiree's Arrears of Pay Using the SF 1174](#) page for how-to information and helpful tools for filling out and submitting these documents.

4. If the deceased retiree was enrolled in the **Survivor Benefit Plan or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan**, complete the annuity account forms, and return them with supporting documentation to:

A-Upload a PDF of your completed/signed DD Form 2656-7 and supporting documents via the [AskDFAS online upload tool](#) on DFAS.mil

B-OR mail to:

**Defense Finance and Accounting Service  
U.S. Military Annuitant Pay  
8899 E 56th Street  
Indianapolis IN 46249-1300**

C-OR fax to: 800-982-8459

### **When to Report a Retiree's Death**

Please report the retired service member's death as soon as possible. This will help avoid delay and possible financial hardship to surviving beneficiaries, family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned military retirement payments. Eligibility for military retired pay ends with the death of the retiree. Therefore, if a retired pay payment was issued for the month in which the retiree died, the bank will be notified to return the payment upon notification of death. The beneficiary of the AOP may be due a prorated amount for the month of death. Never return money yourself unless specifically asked to.

### **Additional tips to assist you in making your claim**

- When requesting the deceased retiree's 1099R, please submit a copy of the certificate of death (COD). The 1099R cannot be issued until the date of death (DOD) is confirmed.
- Please see the [How to Claim a Retiree's Arrears of Pay Using the SF 1174](#) page for how-to information and helpful tools for filling out and submitting the SF 1174.

## Survivor Benefit Plan

Enrollment in an annuity plan is a decision that requires careful consideration. If you are considering enrolling in an annuity plan, you should review the:

- [advantages and disadvantages](#)
- [costs](#)
- [beneficiaries eligible for coverage](#)
- [limitations on leaving or changing coverage](#)

The Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RC-SBP) and Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP) provide eligible beneficiaries with a form of benefit called an "annuity". An annuity is a monthly payment for the lifetime of the beneficiary. The amount of the benefit is a percentage of your retirement benefit based on your election.

Enrollment in an annuity plan is not automatic and there are costs. If you are enrolled, you will pay premiums for your SBP coverage. In addition, you can only leave an annuity to eligible beneficiaries.

Election to participate in these programs is generally made at the time of retirement, although some situations allow a retiree to add coverage after retirement. In most cases, costs to participate are deducted from the retiree's monthly pay and are based on the amount of coverage a retiree elects.

The SBP election does not entitle the beneficiary named for SBP to Arrears of Pay (AOP). A separate AOP designation must be made in order to designate the desired individual.



MILITARY MEMBER    RETIRED MILITARY & ANNUITANT    CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE    CONTRACTOR & VENDOR

DFAS remains operational and will continue our mission to ensure scheduled payments are made timely. We understand the importance of the payments and services we provide and ask that you continue to utilize our electronic and phone self-service options and information available on [DFAS.mil](http://DFAS.mil), [AskDFAS](#), [myPay](#), and [YouTube.com/DFAS](http://YouTube.com/DFAS) whenever possible.

## Hours of Operation

CUSTOMER CARE CENTER	PHONE NUMBERS
Travel Pay Customer Care	888-332-7411, option 4, then option 1
<a href="#">Military Retired &amp; Annuitant Pay</a>	888-332-7411, option 4, then option 2
Military Pay - Army/Navy/Air Force/Marine Corps	888-332-7411, option 4, then option 3
Out of Service Debt	888-332-7411, option 4, then option 4
<a href="#">myPay</a>	888-332-7411, option 5
Garnishments	888-332-7411, option 3

## **Important Phone Numbers and Websites**

**[QUICK TOOLS: https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/Quick-Tools-for-Retirees-SBP-Annuitants-Survivors/](https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/Quick-Tools-for-Retirees-SBP-Annuitants-Survivors/)**

Note: Highlight and then right click link.

### **Medical and Dental Medical/Dental Benefits Phone Websites/Notes**

Eligibility (DEERS)/ID Cards 1-800-538-9552

(TTY/TDD) 1-866-363-2883

CA: 1-800-334-4162

AK & HI 1-800-527-5602

Website: [www.tricare.mil/deers](http://www.tricare.mil/deers)

### **Mail-Order Pharmacy 1-877-363-1303**

[www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/Filling  
Prescriptions/TMOP](http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions/FillingPrescriptions/TMOP)

### **Retiree Dental & Vision Plans "FEDVIP"**

1-877-888-3337

TTY: 1-877-889-5680

Int: +1-571-730-5942

[https://www.benefeds.com /Portal/EducationSupport](https://www.benefeds.com/Portal/EducationSupport)

## **TRICARE Overseas**

1-888-777-8343

<https://tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TSO>

(Tricare USA see next page)

## **TRICARE United States** (Phone numbers are listed on their website)

<http://tricare.mil> TRICARE For Life 1-866-773-0404 [www.tricare.mil/tfl/](http://www.tricare.mil/tfl/)

[www.tricare.mil/LifeEvents/Retiring](http://www.tricare.mil/LifeEvents/Retiring) **TRICARE Eligibility**— Pharmacy

(Medicare info)

1-877-363-1303

<https://tricare.mil/CoveredServices/Pharmacy>

Federal **Long-Term Health Insurance** 1-800-582-3337

[www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/](http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/) CG **Health Benefits Advisor**

1-800-942-2422

## **DEERS**

When a military retired veteran has passed, the surviving spouse must contact DEERS and update the information contained in the system. This drives all other systems, such as DFAS, Tricare for Life, etc.

- DEERS Liaison/ID Card Issues DEERS Personnel Technician, for information and ID Cards, call 1-785- 339-3441.

## **Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System- 'DEERs'**

You must be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) A database of information on uniformed services members (sponsors), U.S.-sponsored foreign military, DoD and uniformed services civilians, other personnel as directed by the DoD, and their family members. You need to register in DEERS to get TRICARE. (DEERS) to get your TRICARE benefit.

- Sponsors are automatically registered in DEERS

- Sponsors must register eligible family members

If both parents are service members, choose one to be listed as the child(ren)'s sponsor in DEERS.

## How to Update DEERS

### Adding or Removing Family Members

Only sponsors can add or remove family members:

- Go to a [local ID card office](#).
- Call first to verify business hours or to set up an appointment.
- Or, [set up an appointment online](#).

### Updating Your Contact Information

Contact information includes your address, email addresses or phone number(s). Family members can update contact information after they're registered in DEERS.

- [Log into milConnect](#)
- Call 1-800-538-9552 (TTY/TDD: 1-866-363-2883)
- Fax updates to 1-800-336-4416 (Primary) or 1-502-335-9980 (Alternate)
- Mail updates to:
  - Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office  
Attn: COA  
400 Gigling Road  
Seaside, CA 93955-6771

Note: Addresses must be a physical address; P.O. boxes can't be used.

## Adding and Correcting Social Security Numbers (SSNs)

<b>Sponsors (Not Retired)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>You'll update your SSN with your personnel office.</b> Your personnel office will report the correct SSN to DEERS and update your record</li></ul>
<b>Sponsors (Retired)</b>	<p>First, get your SSN changes approved by your personnel office. Your</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• personnel office will send the change to the Defense Finance and Accounting Office (DFAS) through existing processes.</li></ul> <p>You must present the <u><a href="#">required identity documents and your social security card to the personnel office.</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><a href="#">If you aren't paid by DFAS...e.g. Coast Guard, NOAA, USPHS...contact Your service Personnel Office to start the process. They will report to DFAS.</a></u></li></ul>

## **VETERANS ADMINISTRATION BENEFITS**

(Arizona - V.A.)

- **1-800-827-1000**

### **Military Officers Association – Surviving Spouse Program**

- Please see the National MOAA program for other Surviving Spouse information
- **<https://www.moaa.org/content/topic-and-landing-pages/iam-a-surviving-spouse/>**

### **Arlington National Cemetery**

- **877-907-8585**
- **[www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/funerals](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/funerals)**



# Death Due to Suicide?

## SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT

If you've lost a military loved one to suicide, you've come to the right place. We've got you. At TAPS, we understand that suicide grief is different. We know you are struggling with a range of powerful emotions and wrestling with very complicated questions. Why did this happen? [Where do I go from here?](#)

- **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Inc. (TAPS)**

Open 24 hours

**800-959-8277**

[www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

*Information regarding TAPS is reprinted with the approval of the TAPS Program gained 08-08-23*

**CLAIM FOR UNPAID COMPENSATION OF DECEASED MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES**

**General Information:** Any assistance deemed necessary for the proper execution of this form will be furnished to all claimants by the employing agency. Forward the completed form to the Government agency in which the deceased was employed at time of death.

**Part A.**

1. Name(s) and social security number(s) of claimant(s)	2. Relationship to deceased	3. If minor, state age
		4. Is designation of beneficiary for unpaid compensation on file with service? (Yes or No)
		5. Are you named beneficiary? (Yes or No)
6. Claimant(s) State of Legal Residence	7. Name, rank or rating, service number, and social security number of decedent	8. Date of Death
		9. Name of Service
		10. Decedent's domicile

**Part B** (To be completed by the widow of the deceased only.) Do you certify that you were married to the decedent and to the best of your knowledge and belief that the marriage was not dissolved prior to his/her death? \_\_\_\_\_

**WIDOW OR WIDOWER AND DESIGNATED BENEFICIARIES DO NOT FILL IN PART C. ALL OTHERS MUST.**

**Part C**

1. List below the name, social security number, age, relationship, and address of:
  - (a) Widow or widower.
  - (b) If no widow or widower survives, list each living child of the deceased (include natural, adopted, illegitimate, and stepchildren and indicate after names which class) or the descendants of deceased children.
  - (c) If not widow or widower, child or descendant of deceased children survives, list each surviving parent and state whether nature, step, foster, or adoptive parent.
  - (d) If none of the above survives, list the next of kin who may be capable of inheriting from the deceased (brothers, sisters)

Name and Social Security Number	Age	Relationship to Deceased	Address

(Continued on other side)

**Part D**

1. If none of the above survives and an executor or administrator has been appointed, the following statements should be

I/we have been duly appointed \_\_\_\_\_ of the estate of the deceased, as evidence, as evidenced by  
(Executor or administrator)

certificate of appointment herewith, administration having been taken out in the interest of

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name, address, and relationship of interested relative or creditor)

and such appointment is still in full force and effect.

NOTE, -if making claim as the executor or administrator of the estate of the deceased, no witnesses are required, but a court certificate evidencing your appointment must be submitted.

2. If no administrator or executor has been appointed, will one be \_\_\_\_\_  
(Yes or No)

**DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY, SURVIVING SPOUSE, CHILDREN, PARENTS, OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES DO NOT  
FILL IN PART E. ALL OTHER MUST.**

**Part E**

Have the funeral expenses been paid \_\_\_\_\_ (If paid, receipted bill of the undertaker must be attached hereto.)  
(Yes or No)

Whose money was used to pay the funeral expenses \_\_\_\_\_

**FINES, PENALTIES, and FORFEITERS are imposed by law for the making of false or fraudulent  
claims against the United States or making of false statements in connection therewith.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of claimant) (Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of claimant) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Street address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State and ZIP code) \_\_\_\_\_ (City, State and ZIP code)

**TWO WITNESSES ARE REQUIRED**

We certify that we are well acquainted with the \_\_\_\_\_ and that  
(Name(s) of claimant)  
the signature(s) of the claimant(s) was (were) affixed in our presence.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of witness) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of witness)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Street address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State and ZIP code) \_\_\_\_\_ (City, State and ZIP code)

All Federal checks in possession of the claimant, drawn to the order of the decedent, in payment of pay and allowance should accompany this claim.



[TAPS.ORG/PROGRAMS-SERVICES](https://taps.org/programs-services)

For the Loved Ones of Those Who Served and Died

# TAPS®

**TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS  
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**



### TAPS NATIONAL MILITARY SURVIVOR HELPLINE • 202-959-TAPS (8277)

A caring network of peer professionals is standing by to provide emotional support, connection to resources and programs, a listening ear, and open access to all that TAPS provides. Survivors can call any time, day or night. We always answer, we always have time, and we always care.



### PEER-BASED EMOTIONAL SUPPORT • TAPS.ORG/PEERMENTORS

At TAPS, survivors help survivors heal. Survivors at least 18 months out from their loss can receive training and join our national network of Peer Mentors. Newly bereaved survivors are closely matched with a Peer Mentor based on manner of loss and relationship to their loved one to help them navigate their unique needs in the aftermath of loss.



### COMMUNITY-BASED GRIEF SUPPORT • TAPS.ORG/GRIEFCOUNSELING

The right mental health or grief professional can guide military survivors to discover their strengths, develop coping skills, navigate relationships, and explore secondary losses. TAPS carefully connects survivors to the right mental health professional, trauma resources, and support groups, all within their local community.



### CASEWORK ASSISTANCE • TAPS.ORG/CASEWORK

Our casework team provides compassionate, customized support to surviving families in alignment with TAPS partners and third-party resources. Caseworkers can provide pro-bono legal assistance, emergency financial resources, state and federal benefit information, and private social services support to guide families toward long-term stability and self-sufficiency.



### EDUCATION SUPPORT • TAPS.ORG/EDU

TAPS Education Support services empower survivors in pursuit of post-secondary education by connecting them to benefits, resources, and scholarship information that meet their financial needs and educational goals.



### SURVIVOR CARE TEAM • TAPS.ORG/SURVIVORCARETEAM

Survivor Care Team members are surviving military family members with extensive professional training in peer-based support, traumatic death, suicide prevention and postvention, and grief support. These skilled listeners assess the needs of the newly bereaved, create safe spaces for sharing, and empower the pursuit of the healthy coping skills and long-term support systems TAPS can provide.



### SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT • TAPS.ORG/SUICIDE

Death by suicide can leave behind a wake of powerful, complicated emotions and questions that shape a unique grief journey. TAPS provides compassionate support and hope for all suicide-loss survivors and safe spaces to honor and grieve. Survivors are gently guided toward a path of healthy grieving, healing, and growth.

3033 WILSON BLVD., THIRD FLOOR, ARLINGTON, VA 22201 ★ 202-959-TAPS (8277) ★ TAPS.ORG ★ INFO@TAPS.ORG

## ILLNESS LOSS SUPPORT • TAPS.ORG/CAREGIVER

TAPS ensures families whose loved one died from illness are recognized, cared for, and aware of pertinent benefits. We advocate for improvements in caregiver support and raise critical awareness about the unique needs and situations of military caregiving families, including the effects of toxic exposure. TAPS also provides healing peer connections and programs that support healthy next steps for caregiving survivors.



## ONLINE COMMUNITY • TAPS.ORG/ONLINECOMMUNITY

Our online community brings the meaningful connections of TAPS directly to survivors, wherever they are. Online groups are peer-led, facilitated sessions where there's never pressure to share, but always an opportunity. TAPS workshops and online series build supportive communities that learn and process new information together and create space to share perspectives in an effort to find inspiration, clarity, and connection.



## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT • TAPS.ORG/EMPOWERMENT

TAPS Women's Empowerment programming provides surviving women with the tools and confidence to shape their identity, spirituality, and goal setting in their lives after loss. A combination of in-person and online events foster a vibrant, compassionate community where participants treasure opportunities to be each other's teachers, confidants, cheerleaders, and friends.



## MEN'S PROGRAM • TAPS.ORG/MEN

The TAPS Men's Program was designed by men, for men. It paves the way for all men to grieve their way, at their own pace. Surviving men lean on each other, share perspectives, grow stronger by elevating one another, and honor the legacy of their military and veteran loved ones.



## YOUTH PROGRAMS • TAPS.ORG/YOUTHPROGRAMS

Though their lives are impacted by grief, young TAPS survivors know their lives will also be marked by camaraderie, mentorship, emotional maturity, adventure, and fun. TAPS Youth Programs — led by experts in child development, children's grief and loss, mental health, and education — provide safe spaces for surviving military children (ages 5-18) to explore grief and embrace healing at Good Grief Camps and Family Camps. Online programming is also available for parents and guardians of grieving children.



## YOUNG ADULTS PROGRAM • TAPS.ORG/YOUNGADULTS

Five pillars of growth — Personal Development, Financial Stability, Communication, Career Development, and Service to Others — guide survivors, ages 18-30, as they grow with their grief. Through in-person, multi-day experiences, and online group discussions, young adult survivors connect and engage with others to create a well-rounded life full of hope, healing, and growth.



## TAPS INSTITUTE FOR HOPE AND HEALING® • TAPS.ORG/INSTITUTE

The TAPS Institute for Hope and Healing® is a leader in training and education for grief professionals and bereaved individuals and families. The institute provides no-cost grief and bereavement programming through webinars, webcasts, and other events on a variety of topics, including understanding and responding to suicide, children's grief, coping with loss; wellness workshops; and preserving memories of lost loved ones. Professionals can access academic programs and a wide range of continuing education credits.



## SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT • TAPS.ORG/ENTERTAINMENT

Stars4TAPS and teams4taps collaborate with the entertainment industry and sports organizations across the country and in the U.K. to bring joy, healing, and incredible memories to surviving military families as they honor their fallen heroes.



PHOTO: TAPS ARCHIVES; ISTOCKPHOTO.COM/IN-FUTURE/MEMORY STOCK PHOTO

## **OTHER QUESTIONS**

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