



STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
MINNESOTA STATE VETERANS CEMETERY - PRESTON



715 Highway 52 • Preston, MN 55965 • (507) 765-7320
~~Fax (507) 765-3793~~ • MinnesotaVeteran.org • 1-888-LinkVet

The Day of the Committal Service

*Arrive at the Administration Building 15 minutes prior to your scheduled Committal Service time. Upon arrival please turn right at the 'Y' and park vehicles in the Cortege Lane with the Funeral Director and or Next of Kin (NOK) immediately behind the Cortege Escort Vehicle (White Yukon). The Administration Building has restrooms, drinking fountains and a lobby area for families to use prior to the service. Handicap Parking is also available at the Admin Building. **(Please DO NOT go to the Committal Shelter at this time)**



Cortege: A solemn procession, especially for a funeral

*Upon arrival, the Next of Kin/Funeral Director/Clergy will proceed into the Administration Building to meet with the Cemetery Representative (Cem Rep) prior to service time. At that time, the Certificate of Cremation or Disposition Document will be presented to the Cem Rep (unless previously provided) as well as the Dependent Fee in the case of a dependent burial. In the case of a cremation burial, the Representative shall at that time also bring the cremation urn and flag for

presentation to the Cem Rep. (Burial flags are not provided by the Cemetery but thru the Funeral Director, Post Office or County Veteran Service Officer). In a casket burial, the casket will be flag draped upon arrival. The Cem Rep will review documents, sample headstone, floral policy, provide a map and grave information to the NOK or Representative.

* At the scheduled time (on the hour), the Escort Vehicle will proceed to the Committal Shelter followed by all other vehicles. Viewing facilities on site are not available and funeral services cannot be held at State Veterans Cemeteries, but a final committal service may be performed. Clergy services and other arrangements are the responsibility of the family or family representative. **For safety reasons, these services are held at the Committal Shelter located away from the gravesite.** Committal services are generally 20 minutes in length which includes the time needed for rendering of military honors. Burial will take place following the committal service. Family is invited to visit the gravesite **after** the completion of the burial by the Cemetery Team. Family is encouraged to depart from the Committal Shelter at this time to allow for the next scheduled Committal Service. Please depart by vehicle to open the Cortege Lane.

*Fresh cut floral arrangements may accompany the casket or urn to the Committal Shelter and may be placed on the grave after burial. Temporary floral containers and water are provided in locations in each burial section. Artificial flowers may be placed on graves during the periods specified on the floral regulation signs and in the floral policy. **Plantings, statues, vigil lights, breakable objects of any nature and any other type of commemorative items are not permitted on the graves.** The full floral policy is available in the Admin Building, on signage in each burial section and on the State Veterans Cemetery Website.

The same procedures are followed for eligible Dependent committal services with the exception of the Military Funeral Honors.

If you have any questions prior to the time and date of your service, please call the MN State Veterans Cemetery – Preston at (507) 765-7320.