

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



FALLEN MARINE PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover PAGE	Fallen Marine Program
Page (a)	Table of Contents
Page 1	FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER
Page 2	FALLEN MARINE PROGRAM INTERPRETATION Fallen Marine Presentation Guide Every Fallen Marine Should Be Honored
Page 3	Fallen Marine Certificate Presentation Flag presentation
Page 4	Presentation Committee Fallen Marine Information Form
Page 5	Wording of Presentation (s) (a) Certificate (b) Flag
Page 6	Funeral Homes Certificate Fallen Marine Presentation Supplies
Page 7	Program Funds Membership Merchandise List
Page 8	Merchandise List Questions About Program Points of Contact
Enclosure (1)	Fallen Marine Information Form, blank
Enclosure (2)	A SOLDIER DIED TODAY
Enclosure (3)	Flag Order Form #21-2008VA FO
Enclosure (4)	MCL Certificate, blank
Enclosure (5)	MCL Certificate, Fallen Marine Program (Example)
Enclosure (6)	MCL, Fallen Marine Memorial Script

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

One of the primary objectives of the Marine Corps League is to recognize and honor fallen Marines. This program is dedicated to that goal. Many of our fellow Marines are passing without notice. Some receive graveside services from the U. S. Marine Corps, V.F.W. or other organizations when formally requested. For most, however, the only notice received is a line in the obituary column stating, "served in the U.S Marine Corps." It should be a goal of each Detachment to recognize and honor every deceased Marine that falls within their area. What better program could we support than one that honors our fallen comrades?

The following is a guide for implementing and applying the "Fallen Marine Program." It is recommended that they be adhered to as closely as possible so as to be uniform throughout each presentation. The program, however, is not meant to be rigid and inflexible. Experience has shown that each ceremony or visitation is somewhat different. You may and probably will experience some conditions, problems or circumstances not covered herein. Flexibility and adjustment may be required.

This "Fallen Marine Program" was written by and for Marine Corps League Detachment #668, Galveston County, Texas. It was implemented on January 1st, 2002. It is now a fully operational and successful program. We welcome its use by any Detachment of the Marine Corps League. The program was approved and adopted by the State Organization in May2003 at the annual meeting in San Antonio. We now have uniform procedures, unique to the Marine Corps League, which can be used throughout the State and the Country. Recognizing a fallen Marine, with this program, can be as simple as mailing a 75-cent MCL sympathy card to full MCL honors. Full honors are as easy as putting on a suit, driving to the visitation site and presenting honors. It takes 5 minutes to perform this service at the funeral home. Please take the time to recognize our fallen comrades. We hope in the future that the Marine Corps League will "LET NO MARINE FALL UNNOTICED."

With minimal funds, a little preparation and a "Few Good Men," this program has proven most successful. It is simple, easy to understand, well received and rewarding.

GOD BLESS AMERICA and GOD BLESS HER VETERANS.

"Semper Fidelis"

FALLEN MARINE PROGRAM INTERPRETATION

Fallen Marine Presentation Guide

The guide is fairly self-explanatory. As you read, however you will see that it encourages you to be flexible. This program is intended to be different from most Veteran Honor Services. It is important to understand these differences in order to interpret the intent of these guidelines:

1. The family is not required to request our honor services. Every fallen Marine within the Detachment's area should be recognized and honored.
2. The Fallen Marine Honor service is primarily intended for presentation during the visitation hours. Honors can be presented during funeral or memorial service at the funeral home or church. The Service was not written, designed nor intended for presentation at the gravesite. However, with some adjustments, honors can be performed in the home, at the gravesite or any other place that is agreeable with the family and the League. If honors are presented at the funeral or memorial service or at the gravesite, it is recommended they be performed at the beginning of the service so as not to interfere with any planned service.
3. Most honor services are performed in uniform at the gravesite. They are formal and regimented. This service is intended to be more personal; vet-to-vet, Marine-to-Marine, Marine family to Marine family.

EVERY "FALLEN MARINE" SHOULD BE HONORED.

This program can be implemented in different steps and degrees depending on the budget restraint and volunteer manpower of the Detachment. Any single or combination of the following steps can be used to honor a fallen Marine.

Step 1. A Marine Corps League sympathy card can be mailed. A card can also be sent one year later. Using a Marine Corps League "Blank Card" print "Esprits de Corps" in red at the top left, the Marines name in black in the center and "Never forgotten" in red under the name.

Step 2. A Marine Corps League Certificate can be mailed.

Step 3. A Marine Corps League Certificate can be delivered to the funeral home for presentation by the funeral director or for display at the funeral service.

Step 4. A Marine Corps Certificate holder with a certificate can be mailed.

Step 5. A Marine Corps Certificate holder with Certificate, pendant and/or eagle, globe and anchor can be mailed.

Step 6. A Marine Corps Certificate holder with Certificate and a pendant or emblem can be presented during visitation hours or at the home of the spouse or next of kin by a "Fallen Marine Presentation Committee."

Step 7. A Marine Corps League Presenter or Presentation Committee can honor a "Fallen Marine" during visitation hours, or at the home of the spouse or next of kin, without presentation of a certificate, pendant or emblem.

Numbers 5 and 6 pertain to the dress code. This is one area of flexibility. The only constant should be when wearing a suit, you should also wear: a black tie, a gold Marine tie bar, a Marine Corps League Lapel Pin and Pocket Crest. These items will identify the committee as Marines and members of the Marine Corps League.

5. League members making the presentation should be in "Marine Corps" or "Marine Corps League" uniform or dress suit with "Marine Corps League" identification.
6. A dark color, black or gray, suit with a **Black** tie is recommended. A gold Marine Corps tie bar, Marine Corps League Lapel Pin on the left lapel and a Marine Corps League...

Pocket Crest in the left top suit pocket will identify the committee and present a neat and professional appearance. White gloves are optional. A Marine League uniform cover, worn with a suit is also optional. The wearing of gloves and cover however should be consistent with all presenters. Appearance is an important consideration. Suits and uniforms are appropriate dress, but an out of shape former Marine, in a Marine Corps uniform may not project the desired appearance at a “Fallen Marine Honor Service.”

7. Upon entering the funeral home or place of visitation, the “presenter” should seek out the funeral director or person in charge. The director or person in charge can identify the spouse or next of kin and give helpful information and advice. The “presenter” should introduce him/herself to the next of kin as a member of the “Marine Corps League” and inform him/her of the pending presentation. The funeral director may also perform this duty. After the family has been seated or brought together and at the designated time, the “presenter” and assistants should begin the presentation. If there are two or more members, they should line up at the back of the chapel. When “Church Call” begins, the committee marches, in step, to the casket or place of honor and stands at attention. If “Church Call” is not played, follow the same procedures. At the start of the “Marines Hymn” a hand salute will be presented and held until completion of the hymn. Salutes should be slow and in unison. The committee should then turn, in the same direction, and approach the next of kin. Only the League member designated as the “presenter” should voice the presentation. The assistants can present the certificate and pendant at the appropriate time. Music should not be played if only one MCL member is to make the presentation. The single MCL member should first introduce him/herself to the wife or next of kin as a representative of the MCL. Also inform them of his/her intent to honor the “Fallen Marine” and family. Then he/she should proceed to the casket or place of honor, salute, and return to the family to make the presentation. (Page 5, “Wording of Presentation (s)” paragraph 4).
8. Presentations may also be made at the home of the spouse or next of kin several days after the funeral. The certificate and pendant may also be mailed. Circumstances may dictate or the League may choose to use one of these alternate delivery methods.
9. When the funeral director first interviews the family of the fallen Marine, he should inform them of our services. He will know if there are any potential problems or complications. Example: Man married twice, children from both wives, or problems within the family etc. Presenters should be prepared for an unwelcome or unexpected reception. The fallen Marine and/or their family may have had disagreements with the V.A., the government, or the Marine Corps. Some families may not welcome League Honors. Presenters must use their own good judgment of how to handle an unwelcome reception. If the family is not receptive and/or if circumstances permit, the “presenter” may explain that the honor is from the “Marine Corps League” which is an organization of Marines and former Marines. If circumstances do not permit, make your apologies and leave.

Flag Presentation

Most funeral homes acquire an American Flag for the family, and is already at the visitation or gravesite. If a flag is not to be offered by the funeral home, one can be obtained from the U. S. Post Office, free of charge. VA form #21-2008 must be completed and submitted to receive a flag see Enclosure (3).

The funeral director can assist by requesting necessary military information from the family. It is recommended that a flag be applied for, in advance, in the event of short notice from a funeral home. Form #21-2008 can be given to the Post Office after the service and a new flag obtained. Prior approval should be obtained from the Post Master.

The funeral home or the family may request the MCL make a flag presentation at the visitation or memorial service. This may occur when there will not be a flag folding service at the grave site or when a grave site is not required, such as cremation services. The flag presentation may commence directly after completion of the “Fallen Marine” service or at the end of the funeral or memorial service. If the flag is to be presented at the end of the funeral or memorial service, all presenters should leave the chapel following the “Fallen Marine” service. They should stand by until the end of services and at the appointed time, proceed with the flag presentation. If flag presentation is to be directly following the completion of the “Fallen Marine” service, the committee turns and proceeds to the place where the flag is displayed. Only two members are required for this service; the remaining members should proceed to the rear of the chapel and stand at attention. When “Taps” is played, all members will give a slow hand salute and hold until end of “Taps.” The “presenter” turns and faces the second MCL member. The second MCL member then steps up to the flag and gives a slow hand salute. He picks up the flag, turns, and stops in front of the “presenter” (point of the flag facing the presenter). The “presenter” salutes the flag and takes it from the second member. The second member then salutes the flag, turns and proceeds to the rear of the chapel to join the other members. The “presenter” turns and stops in front of the wife or next of kin and makes the presentation. (page 5, “Wording of Presentation” paragraph 5). After the presentation, he will salute the recipient (slowly) then turn and leave. If a Ceremonial Bugle is used, the bugler should follow instructions included with the purchase of the bugle. (www.ceremonialbugle.com) If a live bugler is not available, a "Ceremonial Bugle" is recommended. Traditional flag folding with Taps and presentation service can also be performed at the funeral home, grave site or other place of honor.

Presentation Committee

It is preferable that the Committee consists of not less than 2 nor more than 7 representatives: Odd numbers 3, 5, or 7 work best. The “presenter and 1, 2, or 3 on each side. If the “presenter” cannot recruit one or more assistants, he may present alone (page 3 see 7) or he may choose to use methods listed (page 2 see 4). There is no limit to the number of League members who may attend and support the presentation committee.

An updated list should be kept in the “Fallen Marine Program” notebook of every MCL member willing to serve on the Presentation Committee. The list should include: name, address, home, business, and cell phone, work hours, and hours available. Sometimes funeral homes give short notice. The above information will help the “presenter” locate and recruit assistants. Every member of the committee should be given a copy of the “Fallen Marine Program,” in a binder, and should be prepared to be the “presenter” and lead the committee.

The “presenter” should carry a well-supplied briefcase with blank certificates, forms and merchandise. He should also have a floppy disk or CD with all printing programs. When the “presenter” arrives at the funeral home, he should check the certificate for correct spelling and its condition. The name of the fallen Marine should be checked with funeral home records. If there is a problem, a new certificate can be printed using funeral home equipment.

Fallen Marine Information Form

A blank copy of this form enclosure (1) should be furnished to each funeral home. They should make copies, so it will be available when needed. They should be encouraged to fill out every line item except the area, “For MCL use only.” The form may be faxed to a MCL member or the “presenter” can pick it up when he arrives at the funeral home for the presentation. If the service is at a place other than the funeral home, the form should be picked up early enough to check all pertinent information: spelling of name, next of kin, etc. Every MCL member who may be called by the funeral home should keep a blank copy.

When a funeral home calls, the receiver needs to know following information: the name of the deceased Marine (to prepare the certificate), the location, address and time/date of visitation and the name and address of the next of kin (to mail card). It is recommended however that there be one contact person and one phone number for the funeral home to call. If the contact person is going out of town or is otherwise unavailable, an answering machine should be employed with a message such as: "If this is in regards to honors for a deceased Marine please call _____ at _____. If not, please leave a message."

The completed "Fallen Marine Information Form" should be placed in a binder with a copy of the funeral service program from the funeral home and/or obituary from the local newspaper.

Wording of Presentation(s)

MRS./MR. _____, WE REPRESENT THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. MAY WE EXPRESS OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES FOR YOUR LOSS? ON BEHALF OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, PLEASE ACCEPT THIS CERTIFICATE AND PENDANT (or Eagle, Globe & Anchor) AS SYMBOLS OF OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR LOVED ONE'S SERVICE TO HIS/HER COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

Or

MRS./MR. _____, WE REPRESENT THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. MAY WE EXPRESS OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES FOR YOUR LOSS? ON BEHALF OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, MAY WE PRESENT THIS CERTIFICATE AND PENDANT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AS A SYMBOL OF APPRECIATION FOR YOUR LOVED ONE'S SERVICE TO HIS/HER COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

Or

MRS./MR. _____, WE REPRESENT THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. MAY WE EXPRESS OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES FOR YOUR LOSS. ON BEHALF OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, MAY WE PRESENT TO YOU, THIS CERTIFICATE AND PENDANT (or Eagle, Globe & Anchor). YOUR FATHER/HUSBAND IS ONE OF THE FEW WHO HAS EARNED THE RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE TO WEAR THE MARINE CORPS "EAGLE, GLOBE & ANCHOR." WE PRESENT THIS CERTIFICATE AND PENDANT (or Eagle, Globe & Anchor) TO HONOR AND SALUTE HIM/HER AND AS A SYMBOL OF APPRECIATION FOR SERVICE TO HIS/HER COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS. "SEMPER FI"

MRS./MR. _____, I REPRESENT THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. MAY I EXPRESS OUR SINCERE CONDOLENCES FOR YOUR LOSS. ON BEHALF OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, MAY I* (PRESENT TO YOU THIS CERTIFICATE AND PENDANT (or Eagle, Globe & Anchor) AS A SYMBOL OF) APPRECIATION FOR YOUR LOVED ONE'S (Father, son, daughter) SERVICE TO HIS/HER COUNTRY AND THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS. *(*FUTHER EXPRESS OUR*) to be used if certificate and pendant are not presented.

Flag Presentation (Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual) (MCO P5060.20)
(paragraph 25006)

"ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT, THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS AND A GRATEFUL NATION, PLEASE ACCEPT THIS FLAG IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE AND FAITHFUL SERVICE PREFORMED BY YOUR _____" (relationship).

Funeral Homes

To assure a successful program, the cooperation of funeral home directors is required. A letter should be sent to each funeral home notifying them of the program and stating that a MCL member will visit and explain the details. Funeral home directors should be encouraged to notify the designated MCL member as soon as he is aware of a fallen Marine. The “presenter” needs as much time as possible to recruit assistants. The funeral home director can help you in many ways. They can identify the next of kin, inform and prepare the family for the presentation, and point out any unusual circumstances or conditions. Remember we are entering his business. He can and will help if he understands the program and feels he is part of it.

Certificate

A recommended example of certificate format and wording is shown in Enclosure (5). When you receive the blank certificates enclosure (4), print signature space in the bottom right corner. Have all certificates signed by Detachment Officials. Now you are prepared to print certificates when notified of a fallen Marine. Be sure the signatures are in the proper place on the certificate. Once the print program has been set up on your computer and a certificate printed, it will be necessary, there after, to change the name and date only. Place the computer mouse arrow on the fallen Marine’s name. Press the left button and highlight name. Do not delete the highlighted name. Type fallen Marine’s name in highlighted area. Do the same for date and type in date of presentation. It is recommended that you print on blank paper and compare to blank certificate. Be sure all printing is in proper place and the name and date is correct before printing. Save a copy of the file to your computer hard drive.

“Fallen Marine” Presentation Supplies

1. Marine Corps League sympathy card. (To be mailed to next of kin as soon as address is obtained from funeral home)
2. Marine Corps League Certificate with Marine Corps League emblem on front.
3. Red certificate holder with Marine Corps League emblem on front or picture frame.
4. Gold pendant with ribbon, globe and anchor (for ladies)
5. Gold eagle, globe and anchor Marine Corps cover emblem. (for men)

It takes 10 days to two weeks to receive supplies after ordering. A 15 to 30 day, on hand supply, is recommended.

If circumstances dictate, the League may choose to present a pendant or eagle, globe and anchor to more than one member of the family. If the surviving spouse is very young and the Fallen Marine’s mother is present, you may wish to present a pendant to the mother also or if the Marine was on active duty at the time of his/her death or a member of the Marine Corps League, you may wish to make more than one presentation.

Program Funds

The program requires initial startup funds for supplies and equipment. Continuing income is needed to sustain the program. Cost of the program depends on which services the Detachment wishes to offer (see Presentation Guide, Every “Fallen Marine” Should Be Honored-page 2). The cost may vary from \$0.00 to \$13.00 (see Merchandise List-page 7-8). Program expenses can be offset with regular fund raising projects, corporate sponsorship, or individual contributions. Funeral Homes may be willing to contribute to the Detachment, but is never requested by the League to do so.

Membership

Every “Fallen Marine Program” binder should include a full membership roster.

Merchandise List

A list of merchandise needed is listed below. Some items may be deleted depending on what items the Detachment wishes to furnish to the “presenter” and his assistants (tie bar, eagle, globe and anchor, cover emblem, Marine Corps League Pocket Crest, white gloves). These are required when presenters are wearing dress suits.

NOTE: Merchandise prices are subject to change.

Order from:

Marine Corps League

3619 Jefferson Davis Highway (Suite 115)

Stafford, VA 22554

(703) 207-9588

www.mclnational.org

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate</u>
C12	Blank certificate with embossed Marine Corps League Seal	\$1.00 ea
U1	Cap, Detachment w/Marine Corps League	\$ _____
C25	Presentation folder – holds MCL certificate	<u>\$2.00</u> ea
U31	Tie, Black	\$ _____
U22C	Gold Marine Tie Bar	\$ _____
_____	Red Blazer	\$ _____
ST07	Sympathy Cards – w/ embossed MCL logo on front “Our deepest sympathy in this time of loss”	\$ _____ box of 10

ST08	Blank Card (to send one year later)	\$ _____ box of 10
U13	Bronze style Marine Corps Cover Emblem (eagle, globe & anchor)	\$ _____
U23 & 24	Marine Corps Pocket Crest (for Red Blazer)	\$ _____ ea

Order from:

Marine Shop
 715 Broadway
 Quantico, VA 22134
 1-877-640-7195
 www.marineshop.com

Item Description

101358	Bow Pin (pendant for ladies)	\$ _____ ea
1500308	Dress Shoes	\$ _____
500676	White Gloves	\$ _____

Order from:

Walter Curtis Co.
 P.O. Box 600
 DeWitt, MI 48829-0600
 1-800-783-8762

----- Marine Corps League Pocket Crest (for Red Blazer) \$ _____ ea

Order from: Office Max, Walmart, etc...

----- Avery ---- Ready Index x5 tab
 ----- Avery ---- View Binder ½ White
 ----- Picture Frame (8 1/2 by 11 for certificates)

**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
FALLEN MARINE INFORMATION FORM**

Name of fallen Marine _____ Date of Death ____ / ____ / ____

Funeral Home _____ Phone ____ / ____ / ____

Address of F.H. _____

Will there be visitation Yes ___ No ___ Will visitation be local Yes ___ No ___

MCL Honor Service Requested: Date ____ / ____ / ____ Time _____ AM ___ PM ___

MCL Honor Service will be during: Visitation _____ Funeral Service _____ Other _____

Location of visitation (if other than F.H.) _____

Address of visitation (if other than F.H.) _____

Name of spouse _____ Phone ____ / ____ / ____

Next of Kin (if other than spouse) _____ Phone ____ / ____ / ____

Mailing Address of Spouse (or next of kin)

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(For M.C.L. use only)

Person receiving honors _____

Presented: Certificate _____ Pendant _____ Globe and Anchor _____

Presented by _____

Time of presentation: Date ____ / ____ / ____ Time _____ hrs.

Mailed: Certificate _____ Pendant _____ Globe Anchor _____ Card _____

Comments : Use back of page if needed. *Memorial service only MCL Member # _____

Enclosure (1)

A SOLDIER DIED TODAY

(Author Unknown)

He was getting old and paunchy
And his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion,
Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in
And the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies;
They were heroes, every one.

And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors
His tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly
For they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer,
For ol' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer
For a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many,
Just his children and his wife.
For he lived an ordinary,
Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family,
Going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing,
'Tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth,
Their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing,
And proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories
From the time that they were young
But the passing of a Soldier
Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution
To the welfare of our land,
Some jerk who breaks his promise
And cons his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow
Who in times of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his country
And offers up his life?

The politician's stipend
And the style in which he lives,
Are often disproportionate,
To the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Soldier,
Who offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal
And perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them,
For it is so many times
That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys,
Went to battle, but we know,

It is not the politicians
With their compromise and ploys,
Who won for us the freedom
That our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger,
With your enemies at hand,
Would you really want some cop-out,
With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier--
His home, his country, his kin,
Just a common Soldier,
Who would fight until the end?

He was just a common Soldier,
And his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us
We may need his like again.

For when countries are in conflict,
We find the Soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles
That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor
While he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage
At the ending of his days.

Perhaps just a simply headline
In the paper that might say:
"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A SOLDIER DIED TODAY.

God Bless America and God Bless American Veterans

We Salute You

Marine Corps League

Enclosure (2)

Department of Veterans Affairs		APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES FLAG FOR BURIAL PURPOSES	
<p>RESPONDENT BURDEN: VA may not conduct or sponsor, and respondent is not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, call 1-800-827-1000 for mailing information on where to send your comments.</p>			
IMPORTANT - Postmaster or other issuing official: Submit this form to the nearest VA Regional Office. Be sure to complete the stub at the bottom.			
1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME-MIDDLE NAME OF DECEASED <i>(Print or type)</i>			
2. BRANCH OF SERVICE <i>(Check box)</i>		3. VETERAN'S SERVICE <i>(Check box)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ARMY <input type="checkbox"/> NAVY <input type="checkbox"/> AIR FORCE <input type="checkbox"/> MARINE CORPS <input type="checkbox"/> COAST GUARD <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <i>(Specify)</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SPANISH AMERICAN <input type="checkbox"/> WWI <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> KOREAN CONFLICT <input type="checkbox"/> AFTER 1-31-55 <input type="checkbox"/> VIETNAM ERA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <i>(Specify)</i>	
4. CONDITION UNDER WHICH VETERAN WAS RELEASED FROM SERVICE <i>(Check box) (See Item 2, Instructions on Reverse)</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> A. VETERAN OF A WAR, MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE, OR OF SERVICE AFTER 1-31-55, DISCHARGED OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE		<input type="checkbox"/> C. BY DEATH IN ACTIVE SERVICE AFTER MAY 27, 1941, AND FLAG NOT FURNISHED BY THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> B. DISCHARGED FROM OR RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY IN U.S. ARMED FORCES UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE, AFTER SERVING AT LEAST ONE		<input type="checkbox"/> D. SEPARATED FROM PHILIPPINE MILITARY FORCES, UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE, AFTER SERVING WITH THE UNITED STATES IN SUCH FORCES UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER OF JULY 26, 1941, AND DIED ON OR AFTER APRIL 25, 1951	
5. NAME OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG		6. ADDRESS OF PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FLAG	
7. RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED <i>(See Item 1, Instructions on Reverse)</i>			
PERSONAL DATA OF DECEASED <i>(To be completed if possible)</i>			
8. VA FILE NUMBER		9. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	10. SERVICE SERIAL NUMBER
11. DATE OF ENLISTMENT	12. DATE OF DISCHARGE	13. DATE OF BIRTH	14. DATE OF DEATH
15. DATE OF BURIAL	16. PLACE OF BURIAL <i>(Name of cemetery, city, and State)</i>		
17. REMARKS			
<p>I CERTIFY that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made above are correct and true, the deceased is eligible, in accordance with instructions on reverse for issue of a United States flag for burial purposes, and such flag has not previously been applied for or furnished.</p>			
18. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT <i>(Sign in INK)</i>	19. ADDRESS OF APPLICANT <i>(Number and street or rural route, city or P.O., and ZIP Code)</i>	20. RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED	21. DATE SIGNED
PENALTY - The law provides that whoever makes any statement of a material fact knowing it to be false shall be punished by a fine or both imprisonment or both.			
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF FLAG			
<p>I CERTIFY that the flag requested by the applicant will be used to drape the casket of the deceased in whose honor it is issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and that Item 6 of the Instructions will be complied with.</p>			
SIGNATURE OF PERSON RECEIVING FLAG <i>(Sign in INK)</i>		DATE FLAG RECEIVED	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT		FOR VA USE	
		DATE NOTIFICATION FORWARDED TO SUPPLY	INITIALS OF RESPONSIBLE VA EMPLOYEE

VA FORM
SEP 1999

21-2008

EXISTING STOCK OF VA FORM 2008, SEP 1993(R), WILL BE USED.

This stub is to be completed by the POSTMASTER or other issuing official. Upon receipt the VA Regional Office will detach and forward it to the appropriate Supply Officer.

NOTIFICATION OF ISSUANCE OF FLAG		
DATE FLAG ISSUED	SIGNATURE OF POSTMASTER OR OTHER ISSUING OFFICIAL	ADDRESS OF POST OFFICE OR OTHER FLAG ISSUE POINT
FOR VA USE ▶		DATE OF REPLACEMENT

VA FORM
SEP 1999

21-2008

EXISTING STOCK OF VA FORM 2008, SEP 1993(R), WILL BE USED.

SEE REVERSE

Marine Corps League



Marine Corps League



Recognition of Honorable Service In the United States Marine Corps

To the family of:

John Jay Doe

In appreciation and gratitude for his honorable service to the United States of America and the United States Marine Corps.

Awarded this 13th day of June, 2003

The Marine Corps League
Galveston County Detachment #668

Robert O. Richardson
Detachment Commandant

Diana M. Richardson
Detachment Adjutant

"Semper Fidelis"



United States Marine _____

Almighty God, Supreme Father of all, we come to Thee in this solemn hour with a realization of our utter helplessness. We are brought face to face with the inevitable fact of death. God of the Universe be with us now, Helper of the helpless, Giver of eternal peace, Consoler of the disconsolate, take into Thine arms the soul of our departed brother _____ and mend the wounds of his bereaved family. Surround them with Thy loving kindness, give to their troubled hearts that peace and comfort which only Thou canst give. Amen

We recognize that all people are God's children and that his power and authority extends beyond man's universe. We know that our ways are not always His ways, and that by reason of the frailty of human kind, we frequently depart from His way. It is not always given to us to understand His purpose and we often see as through a glass darkly. Often we do not subordinate ourselves to divine power and teachings; nevertheless, from time to time, occasions like this bring us to a clearer understanding of our dependence upon God, and the futility of existence without Him.

He has seen fit to call our brother, _____, to his final reward at this time. Why it should be now rather than later we cannot understand. We must bow in submission to the divine will and learn to say with a humble and contrite spirit "*Thy will be done.*" As a symbol of the comradeship which grew from our common service for Our Nation he loved so well, we have placed the Marine insignia of the Eagle, Globe and Entwined Anchor upon this document we leave with his family. We shall ever cherish this symbol and what it stands for, with a memory that is lasting, until we, along with him, take our places in the silent halls of death.

All those of you within the sound of my voice, think deeply and well concerning the things which you have heard. Give heed unto the promises and assurances of the Heavenly Father. Let them not be to you words without meaning. Ponder the inevitable fact that you surely will, and may soon be, called to your reward. Let, the devotion of our departed brother, serve as an example to you in your association with your comrades, and your fellowmen. As he enters the Great Unknown may you resolve to so govern your life that you may, and I am sure Norman will, hear from the Heavenly Father these words of commendation, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of thy Lord."

O God, we come to Thee in prayer for our departed brother _____, and once more we beseech thee to receive his soul into the joys of Thy Kingdom. Bowed down with grief and a sense of the futility of human existence apart from Thee, we are not always able to understand Thy divine purposes. It has pleased Thee to take from us our departed comrade and to leave his loved ones without his loving companionship; nevertheless, help us to say with resignation and faith, "*Thy will be done.* Give us the strength and courage to complete the life we have yet to live; to fight the good fight with strength and courage. Give us the faith to believe that through Thy grace we shall one day stand in the light of Thy love, face to face with Thee, when Thou shalt make all things known unto us. Grant us to know what is right and to do what is right. Bring to the hearts of the bereaved ones the peace and comfort which passeth all on understanding. Guide them and direct them in all their days, enable them to understand and to believe that this is not goodbye, and that they will one day reunite with him who has gone before, in happiness and peace, forever. As we depart to go our separate ways, continue to watch over us, and if it be Thy will that the time of our departure is delayed a while, may we be granted the strength and courage to face the coming days with fortitude. And now to Him who hath given, and taketh away, we give honor, power and glory. Amen.