

MILPERSMAN 1770-275

PRESENTATION OF BURIAL FLAGS

Responsible Office	OPNAV (N135C)	Phone: TOLL FREE WITHIN U.S. FROM OVERSEAS FAX	DSN 1 (800) 368-3202 (901) 874-2501 874-6654
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References	(a) 10 U.S.C. 1481 (b) P.L. 110-417, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (NDAA 09) (c) 10 U.S.C. 1482(e) (d) 10 U.S.C. 1477(d)
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1. **Policy.** The Navy will ensure, at the time of burial, a flag of the United States (U.S.) is presented to designated individuals and specific family members of deceased Sailors whose status is covered under reference (a) and updated by reference (b). References (c) and (d) delineate eligibility of those recipients entitled to receive a flag.

2. **Authorized Recipients of the Burial Flag.** Presentation of a standard size Burial Flag is authorized to be given to the following recipients:

a. The person authorized to direct disposition (PADD) of Sailor's remains.

b. The surviving spouse, if not designated as the PADD, regardless of whether the surviving spouse remarries after the Sailor's death.

c. Each child, not designated as the PADD, and without regard to age or marital status as described below:

(1) Legitimate children.

(2) Adopted children.

(3) Stepchildren who were a part of the Sailor's household at the time of death.

(4) Illegitimate children of a female Sailor born out of wedlock.

(5) Illegitimate children of a male Sailor.

(a) who have been acknowledged in writing signed by the Sailor;

(b) who have been judicially determined, before the Sailor's death, to be his children;

(c) who have been otherwise proved, by evidence satisfactory to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to be children of the Sailor; or

(d) who the Sailor had been judicially ordered to pay support.

d. The parents or parent, if not designated as the PADD, as described below:

(1) Natural parent.

(2) Stepparent.

(3) Parent(s) by adoption.

(4) Person(s) who stood in loco parentis for a period of not less than 1 year before the death of the Sailor; however, only one person who stood in loco parentis may be recognized. Preference shall be given to the individual who exercised a parental relationship on the date, or most nearly before the date, on which the Sailor entered military service.

Note: Parents living in the same household will be presented only one flag.

3. **Unauthorized.** Presentation of a flag of the U.S. is not authorized for a Sailor who at the time of death was a military prisoner in custody and under a sentence that includes a discharge.

4. **Commanders (CDRs)/Commanding Officers (COs)/Officers in Charge (OICs)/Command Master Chiefs (CMCs)**

a. Ensure all Navy personnel understand the importance of the Record of Emergency Data, and that Sailors make timely and

accurate updates so eligible Burial Flag recipients can be identified.

b. Ensure immediate notification of a personnel casualty is made to Office of Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV), Navy Casualty (N135C) and the chain of command as delineated in MILPERSMAN 1770-030.

c. Ensure all personnel are aware of this policy.

5. **Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC), Casualty Assistance Calls/Funeral Honor Support (CAC/FHS) Program Manager**. Manage and provide guidance to Regional CAC/FHS Program Managers, Casualty Assistance Calls Officers (CACOs), and Funeral Honors details.

6. **Navy Casualty (OPNAV N135C)**

a. Issue policy for identifying eligible recipients of Burial Flags.

b. Provide updates to Chief of Naval Personnel (CHNAVPERS) on issues involving presentation of Burial Flags.

c. Ensure Navy Mortuary Affairs works with respective Decedent Affairs Officers to address issues pertaining to the presentation of Burial Flags.