

Suggestions to Honor Deceased Veterans

Public Relations Chair Bill Tennis and Veterans Chair Vicki Shiflett have requested that VEA members be made aware of these very good, honorable means of remembering our deceased veterans.

Presidential Memorial Certificates

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased Veterans.

History

This program was initiated in March 1962 by President John F. Kennedy and has been continued by all subsequent Presidents. Statutory authority for the program is Section 112, Title 38, of the United States Code.

Administration

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the current President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the Veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligibility

Eligible recipients include the next of kin and loved ones of honorably discharged deceased Veterans. More than one certificate may be provided.

Go to: <http://www.cem.va.gov/pmc.asp> for more information and how to apply for a certificate.

Elks Medal of Valor

Another way of honoring honorably discharged deceased Veterans is to order the "Medal of Valor" from the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. Go to <http://www.elks.org/vets/volunteers.cfm>, then click on Merchandise Order Form and order them from the ENVSC.

Suggestions

It would be a nice gesture to obtain both a Presidential Memorial Certificate **and** a Medal of Valor to present to the loved one of a military person who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Such a ceremony could take place around Memorial Day or Veterans Day.

