

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Memorial Guide Book



1 September 2006

Past Captains Association

There comes a time during a career in the Coast Guard Auxiliary when a member must take part in a memorial service for an Auxiliarist.

Many times, when it happens, it's totally unexpected. Death is an awkward subject. It is a language none of us feels fluent in, no matter how much experience we've had. We reach for words and hope they're the right ones. What matters though is the effort.

The funeral memorial service provides an opportunity for Auxiliary friends and family to gather in mutual sorrow to observe the passing of a member who has been important in their lives. It may be held in a church, temple, funeral home or other venue such as a memorial service meaningful to the decedent.

When we join together to show respect for departed friends of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, we use our freedom of religion. Though we, in the Auxiliary, may worship in many different ways, as long as we seek solace in a faith, we honor that departed member.

While we may weep for our departed friends and comrades, we will celebrate the life of that friend. The passages chosen in this Updated Memorial Guide should help you better understand the various customs and traditions of funerals that you may be participating in and how to reflect that celebration of life.

The Past Captain's Association felt this Updated Memorial Guidebook will prove useful when an auxiliarist's death occurs. This Edition supercedes the earlier one, dated 1 October 1997. Put it where you will have ready access to it in time of need.

MEMORIAL GUIDE BOOK (UPDATED)

by

Gloria L. Tobin

Past Vice President, PPCA 1996

1 September 2006

Think...

**of stepping on the shore, and finding it heaven,
of taking hold of a hand, and finding it God's hand
of breathing a new air, and finding celestial air,
of feeling invigorated, and finding immortality,
of passing from storm and tempest, to an unknown calm,
of walking and finding yourself home!**



“Gone but not forgotten.”

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 2

Initial Set Up 3

Relief of Watch 4

Chapel or Memorial Service..... 4

The Hand Salute 5

Protestant Service..... 6

Catholic Service 10

Jewish Service 13

Cremated Remains Service 15

Arlington National Cemetery Service 16

Ceremonial Burial at Sea..... 17

Confirmation of Burial 20

Deceased Member’s Information Sheet 21

MEMORIAL GUIDEBOOK

A. INTRODUCTION

- 1. Any Auxiliarist having knowledge of the death of a fellow Auxiliarist should notify the FC without delay. The FC should call (in person) on the deceased survivor to offer condolence and assistance.**
- 2. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary should make known through normal channels of communications that services are available for use at the time of the death of a member of the Auxiliary. The Director should be notified of the Auxiliarist's passing and the funeral details.**
- 3. It is important that Auxiliarists not put undue pressure on the survivors for the use of the Auxiliary service. Auxiliary involvement should not be restricted to members of the deceased's flotilla. Most Auxiliarists have a wide circle of friends and associates. Auxiliarists at other flotillas, division and district level should be made aware of the situation and the recognition planned, so they may participate. Participating Auxiliarists should be in uniform. Service Dress Blue (Alpha) is appropriate.**
- 4. With the concurrence of the deceased's family, an Auxiliary Honor Guard may stand watch at the funeral home during the viewing of the body and can also serve as honorary pallbearers. This request should be made known to the mortuary and clergyman. Following is a recommended scenario for the Funeral Watch. (See Figure 1.)**
- 5. The National Ensign can be displayed on a casket for a Coast Guard Auxiliarist when that member has died while on Auxiliary orders. There are rules of who is authorized a National Ensign from the Government. Those rules are found in the Decedent Affairs Manual, COMDTINST M1770.1 (series).**
- 6. If there is to be a church service as well as a separate Auxiliary service, then the Auxiliary service should come before the church service (it is usually held the evening before at the funeral home). The committal should be given by the family's clergyman. This latter should hold true even though there may be an Auxiliarist who is a clergyman and even though committal may be at sea. Not to observe this is to breach an important pastoral relationship between the family and their pastor.**
- 7. If there is an Auxiliarist who is a clergyman, then he should give the Auxiliary service; otherwise, the service should be led by an elected officer of the deceased's flotilla, division or district.**
- 8. All Auxiliarists should be in uniform, preferably Service Dress Blue; however, the Tropical Blue Long uniform with combination cap may be prescribed instead. Shoes should be high gloss, Corfam, black dress shoes or (equivalent) are worn. Auxiliarists may serve as pallbearers if that is the wish of survivors, or as honorary pallbearers who sit as a group in the church or chapel. Auxiliarists should not stand behind the casket during the service.**

9. There is a trend away from eulogies and toward short sermons which proclaim something of the hope taught in the deceased's religious tradition. (See samples of Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish services beginning on page 6.) Details for burial at Arlington National Cemetery or for other National Cemeteries followed by the Burial at Sea services are also included on page 17. It is suggested that the Auxiliarist's "history" in the Auxiliary be prepared on a sheet of paper and copies passed out at the beginning of the service.
10. Where it states a hymn might begin the service, the Auxiliary leader should get the name of the deceased's favorite hymn from the family and arrange to have it played or sung at the beginning of the service. If the deceased didn't have a favorite hymn, several appropriate hymns have been selected for each religious funeral service beginning on page 6.
11. The Auxiliary participation in an Auxiliarist's funeral may, depending on the wishes of the deceased's family, range from the Auxiliarists arriving as a group to pay their respects, an honor guard posted at the viewing in conjunction with a brief memorial service or participation in the funeral itself. Whatever the level of Auxiliary activity, great care must be taken to maintain the dignity of the occasion.
12. For committal at the graveside, the Auxiliary honorary pallbearers and other uniformed Auxiliarists in attendance should salute during the firing of volleys or the sounding of Taps. Auxiliary members attending in civilian clothes should stand at attention and hold the right hand over the heart.

B. INITIAL SETUP

1. Deceased must be in Full Service Blue or Tropical Blue Long Auxiliary uniform with earned ribbons and insignias attached.
2. If the deceased had once been in the military service, and the family concurs, drape a U.S. flag on the casket. The local Post Office will provide a flag if the family provides death and military discharge certificates. When the flag is draped on the casket, it shall be placed so the stars are at the head of the casket over the left shoulder of the deceased. Nothing shall rest on top of the flag. The flag will be removed as the casket is being lowered into the grave and in time so it will not touch the ground.
3. If the deceased had never been in the military, a flag can still be obtained but will not be furnished by the government. Fold and place the flag pointed side up in the center of the lid of the casket.
4. American and Auxiliary flags should also be placed on the left and right sides of the casket, respectively.
5. White gloves should be worn by the Auxiliary Honor Guard. Funeral homes may supply white gloves, if asked.
6. Members (with the title of Division Captain or above) serving as pallbearers at an Auxiliarist's funeral, will wear a three-inch wide black crepe band (mourning badge) on the left sleeve of the outer garment, halfway between elbow and shoulder. Members

(with the title of Vice Division Captain or below) shall wear the mourning badge on the right sleeve of the outer garment, halfway between the shoulder and elbow. Most funeral homes will supply them if asked.

7. Watchstanders can use any small room away from the room where the body is on view as a rest/holding area.
8. Determine the best route for the watchstanders to use to enter the room and march to the casket. If possible, one watchstander should enter down each side of the room. (See the sketch in Figure 1).
9. Auxiliarists should not wear hats when in a church or chapel but should wear hats when outdoors during the committal. Only the Auxiliary Honor Guard should wear the combination cap while standing the watch or when ready to relieve.
10. Enter the funeral parlor, march toward casket, stop, salute colors, turn toward each other, and go to parade rest. Most Auxiliarists have either not had current drill movements or it has been a long time ago. For a memorial service, this skill should be learned or “refreshed.” (See Figures 2-1 and 2-2 for photo copies of hand salute positions germane to this ceremony.)
11. Limit the length of each watch to a maximum of 15 minutes.
12. When possible, both members of a watchstander team should both be either female or male, and that watchstander teams should alternate between female and male teams.

C. RELIEF OF WATCH

1. Next pair of watchstanders enters the parlor and follow the same route to the casket.
2. Watchstanders already on duty will take two steps backwards to allow their reliefs to salute the colors.
3. Relief watchstanders turn, face each other, and go to parade rest.
4. Watchstanders just relieved come to attention, turn, and march out, following the same route.

D. CHAPEL OR MEMORIAL SERVICE

1. When all have gathered and the appointed time has come, the Auxiliarist should proceed to the lectern and begin the service. Note: the family may request the deceased's favorite hymn be played or favorite solo be sung before the actual readings begin and there may be several methods used in seating the Auxiliarists. The Honorary Auxiliary pallbearers usually occupy the pews (seats) to the left front of the chapel.
2. Three religious services have been arranged (including suggested music) to make the Memorial Service appropriate for Protestant, Catholic or Jewish faiths.

THE HAND SALUTE



Figure 2-1 An Auxiliarist demonstrates the hand salute.



Figure 2-2 Back view of woman Auxiliarist saluting. With practice, the salute becomes a natural motion.

THE SALUTE

The military custom you will learn first and use most is the hand salute. This is a courtesy that has been observed for centuries by military men and women of every nationality. The hand salute is given with the right hand.

3. The Order of the Burial Service. Suggested services follow:

PROTESTANT SERVICE

Protestant denominations include Methodist, Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Lutheran, Pentecostal, Episcopalian and Presbyterian. Protestant funeral ceremonies are typified diversity and flexibility, with importance placed on meeting the family's wishes. They may be held at a church, a funeral home, or graveside. Most Protestant services include prayers and eulogy, a sermon and Biblical scripture readings. They celebrate the life of the deceased and often emphasize the Christian belief in everlasting life.

PRELUDE

Suggested music to be played before, after, or as a solo during the Memorial Service:

Eternal Father (Navy hymn)
Amazing Grace
Abide With Me
Ave Maria
O Lord To Whom The Spirits Live
Now The Laborer's Task Is
Rock of Ages
How Great Thou Art
Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

OPENING HYMN

Where it states a hymn might begin the service, the Auxiliary leader should get the name of the deceased's favorite hymn from the family and arrange to have it played or sung at the beginning of the service.

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION: "LORD'S PRAYER":

Many Protestant churches include the "Lord's Prayer" in all services (as follows):

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

(OR)

God of all grace, we give you thanks because of his death our Savior, Jesus Christ, destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

REFLECTIONS:

The tides of life have ebbed for a shipmate, and we, his/her fellow members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, gather here to honor his/her memory.

_____ was a member of Flotilla_____, Division_____, Eighth Western Rivers Region. He/She has served the Auxiliary well in the past as (mention the number of years he/she served in the Auxiliary and offices held, if desired).

SERVICE:

Our Lord has called our shipmate to sail with Him in eternally calm waters forever free from the storms and tempests of mortal life.

We honor and cherish the memory of our shipmate, but we do not mourn for him/her for he/she has found refuge in the great harbor of eternal peace. Rather, it is for ourselves that we mourn; for a good friend has slipped his/her moorings in the night and is no longer among us. We will miss his/her hand on the helm. We will miss his/her shoulder next to ours. We will miss his/her encouragement and counsel as we meet the storm and strife of life.

We of the Coast Guard Auxiliary mourn our loss, but we are consoled by the abiding faith that when the final watch changes for us and we too cross the bar our shipmate will be waiting to lead us into safe anchorage.

When our sailing nears its ending
When our course is all but run,
When the scenes of past endeavor
Crown upon us one by one,
When we see in true perspective –
Knowing wrong and knowing right,
May we say, like Saul of Tarsus
I have fought a noble fight.
May we find our life-long courses
Have not been steered in vain
Lest the bearings we have plotted
Must be reckoned out again.
When we leave our earthly bodies
Buried deep in sea or sod,
May our endeavors be our glory
When we go to meet our God.

We bid you “Hail and Farewell”, shipmate, until we drop anchor beside you at the last great Rendezvous.

Mourn not for our departed shipmate who has sailed to the Port of No Return. He/She has at last dropped anchor in the harbor eternally secure from gales and raging seas of life. Let us find consolation for ourselves in the knowledge that when God so wills, we too will join him/her there, and with him/her enjoy eternal tranquility.

The Soul departed in the Lord does not die, it returns to God, who is the Giver of Life. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

PSALM 23:

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the House of the Lord for ever.

(OR)

PSALM 121:

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills; from whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord, who hath made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; and He that keepeth thee will not sleep. Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself is thy keeper; the Lord is thy defense upon thy right hand; So that the sun shall not burn thee by day, neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; yea, it is even He that shall keep thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

PRAYER:

Remember Thy servant, O Lord, according to the favour which Thou bearest unto Thy people, and grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of Thee, he/she may go with strength in the life of perfect service, in Thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

(OR)

Remember our brother/sister _____, whose baptism is now complete in death. Bring him/her into your eternal joy and light, together with all who have died in the peace of Christ; through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

OPTIONAL SCRIPTURE READINGS:

JOHN 5: 24-27
JOHN 11: 21-27
JOHN: 14: 1 - 6
ROMANS 8: 14-19; 31-35; 37-39

OPTIONAL READING:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die.

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

PRAYER:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead: We give thee thanks for all thy servants who have given service to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Grant to them thy mercy and the light of thy presence; and give us such a lively sense of thy righteous will, that the work which thou hast begun in them may be perfected; through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION:

The service may then be closed with one of the following benedictions:

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing to his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

(OR)

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction and a pledge of our inheritance of life eternal where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE:

THE COMMITTAL:

_____, our companion in faith, we entrust you to God. Go forth from this world in the love of God who created you, in the mercy of Jesus who died for you, in the power of the Holy Spirit who receives and protects you. May you rest in peace and rise in glory, where pain and grief are banished, and life and joy are yours forever. Amen.

(A portion of the Protestant service is from the Lord of Love Lutheran Church, Omaha, Nebraska contributed by Mrs. E. Kay Reed)

CATHOLIC SERVICE

Traditional Catholic choices would include the Vigil, which is held at a funeral home, a Funeral Mass at the church, and the Rite of Committal in a cemetery. In some cases, mass is not celebrated. When this occurs, the priest may lead a service at the funeral home or graveside.

Visitation is frequently held during evening hours at the funeral home and the Auxiliary Memorial Service should be conducted at that time.

Suggested music to be played before, after or as a solo during the Memorial Service:

Eternal Father (Navy Hymn)
Ave Maria
How Great Thou Art
God Be With You Till We Meet Again
Amazing Grace

Where it states a hymn might begin the service, the Auxiliary leader should get the name of the deceased's favorite hymn from the family and arrange to have it played or sung at the beginning of the service.

GREETING:

We are gathered here today to pay our respects and honor the memory of _____ (deceased's name) and his/her family.

(Deceased's name) _____ was a valued member of Flotilla _____, Division _____. (Give the number of years he/she was a member of the Auxiliary and any appointed and elected offices he/she held).

SERVICE:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die.

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself. and mine eyes shall behold, and not as a stranger.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

BIBLICAL READINGS:

PSALM 129:

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord:

Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou, O Lord, wilt make iniquities; Lord, who shall stand it?

For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness; and by reason of Thy law, have I waited for Thee, O Lord.

My soul hath relied on his word; my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

From the morning watch even until night let Israel hope in the Lord.

Because with the Lord there is mercy; and with Him plenteous redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

(OR)

JOHN 11:

At that time, Martha said to Jesus: Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother would not have died; but now also I know that whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give thee. Jesus saith to her: "Thy brother shall rise again." Martha saith to him: "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection of the last day." Jesus said to her: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live; and every one that liveth and believeth in me, shall not die forever. Believest thou this?" She said to him: "Yea, Lord, I have believed that Thou art Christ the Son of the living God, who art come into this world."

THE PRAYER:

Enter not into judgment with Thy servant, O Lord; for in Thy sight shall no man be justified unless through Thee he find pardon for all his sins. Let not, therefore, we beseech Thee, the hand of Thy justice be heavy upon him, whom the earnest prayer of Christian faith commendeth unto Thee, but by the help of Thy grace, may he escape the judgment of vengeance who whilst he was living, was marked with the sign of the Holy Trinity; Who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

(OR)

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light, and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive –

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

The following should always be read:

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

May he/she rest in peace. Amen.

Please note:

- 1. After the church service, the Honorary Pallbearers, under the direction of the funeral director, move the casket to the hearse. When the casket has been placed in the hearse, the pallbearers enter their vehicles.**
- 2. At the cemetery:**
 - (a) The officer in charge or a designated individual commands the prepositioned firing party and bugler to Detail, ATTENTION and Present, ARMS as soon as the casket is moved from the hearse. The command Order, ARMS is given when the casket reaches the grave.**
 - (b) The Honorary Pallbearers carry the casket, feet first and level, to the grave. On reaching the grave, the casket is placed on the lowering device. The pallbearers raised the flag from the casket and hold it in a horizontal position, waist high, until the conclusion of “Taps.”**
 - (c) Uniformed Auxiliarists will salute during “Taps” and Auxiliarists in civilian clothes will place their right hand over their heart.**
- 3. The remainder of the ceremony is conducted as prescribed in the Protestant and Catholic Services.**

THE COMMITTAL:

To Thee, O Lord, we commend the soul of Thy servant(s), _____ (first name(s) only), that having departed from this world (he/she/they) may live with Thee; and whatever sins (he/she has) (they have) committed through the frailty of human nature, do Thou, in Thy most tender mercy, forgive and wash away. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION:

Eternal rest grant unto (him/her/them), O Lord, let perpetual light shine upon (him/her/them), and may (his/her soul) (their souls) and all the souls of the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

JEWISH SERVICE

The scripture readings indicated below can be given at all three branches of the Jewish faith (Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform) memorial services.

GREETING:

We are all gathered here today to pay our respects to _____ and his/her family. We will restrict our service to some specially chosen readings.

REFLECTION:

Birth is a beginning and death a destination, And life is a journey, A sacred pilgrimage to live everlasting.

Death has taken our beloved _____. Our friends grieve in their darkened world. In their silence, there is lamentation. In their tears, there is loneliness. Lost in their sorrow, may they find the presence of loving friends. Hear them, O God. Be with them.

For _____ 's love that united us in life and which death cannot sever, for his/her companionship that we shared along life's path, and which continues through the tenderness of memory; for the gifts of his/her heart and mind that brought us joy and happiness and is now a precious remembrance; for all these and more, we give our thanks to God.

In this time of grief, we listen to the voice of our sacred Scriptures that brings us the ever new message of God's nearness. It tells us of our kinship with the Creator; in light as in darkness, in joy as in sorrow, in life as in death.

BIBLICAL READINGS:

PSALM 129:

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice.

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

If Thou, O Lord, wilt make iniquities; Lord, who shall stand it?

For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness; and by reason of Thy law, have I waited for Thee, O Lord.

**My soul hath relied on his word; my soul hath hoped in the Lord.
From the morning watch even until night let Israel hope in the Lord.
Because with the Lord there is mercy; and with Him plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

(OR)

PSALM 121:

**I lift my eyes to the Mountains;
What is the source of my help?
My help comes from Adonai,
Maker of heaven and earth.
God will not let your foot give way;
your Protector will not slumber.
See, the Protector of Israel
neither slumbers nor sleeps!
God is your Guardian,
God is your protection
at your right hand.
The sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
God will guard you from all harm
God will guard your soul,
your going and coming,
now and forever.**

(OR)

ECCELESIASTES 3:

**For everything there is a season, a time for every experience under heaven;
A time to be born and a time to die.
A time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted;
A time to tear down and a time to build up;
A time to weep and a time to laugh,
A time to grieve and a time to dance;
A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones;
A time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to seek and a time to loses,
A time to keep and a time to discard;
A time to tear and a time to sew,
A time to keep silent and a time to speak.**

PLEASE NOTE: Floral displays are discouraged by Jewish tradition, which favors tzedakah, a charitable contribution to assist the living.

(Courtesy of Rabbi Jay Perlman, Shoore Emeth)

CREMATED REMAINS SERVICE

1. When the remains are cremated and the ashes interred with military honors, the provisions of Section B (Initial Setup), with necessary modifications will govern.
2. For all phases of the funeral, where the cremated remains are carried by hand, one man is detailed to carry the receptacle (casket) containing the ashes and another is detailed to carry the flag, folded into the shape of a cocked hat. The pallbearer carrying the flag is always positioned to the right of the remains. When the receptacle is carried from the hearse into the chapel and from the chapel to the hearse, these two men are the only participants in the ceremony.
3. During the procession to the gravesite, the receptacle and flag are carried by the two pallbearers followed by four additional Honorary Pallbearers. When the receptacle has been placed on the gravesite, all six pallbearers unfold the flag and hold it over the grave.
4. When the receptacle and flag are placed before the chancel of the chapel or transported to gravesite by vehicle, the receptacle and folded flag are placed side by side. If the pallbearers walk to the gravesite, the two bearers who carried the receptacle and the flag join the other four Honorary Pallbearers already prepositioned on either side of the hearse.
5. When no hearse is used, suitable transportation is provided for the receptacle and flag bearers, and the other Honorary Pallbearers.
6. When the remains are moved to a crematory and the ashes are to be interred with military honors at a later time, the ceremony consists only of the escort to the crematory. The firing of volleys and the sounding of "Taps" are omitted.
7. When the funeral service is held at the crematory, and when no further honors are anticipated, the volleys are fired and "Taps". All uniformed Auxiliaries salute and Auxiliaries dressed in civilian clothes should place their right hand over their heart .

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY



- 1. The funeral home will make the contact to Arlington National Cemetery if desired. This would be true for other National Cemeteries as well. Because no prior arrangements can be made for burial at these facilities, the request must come from the Funeral Director or staff member. As death certificates are usually not available for two or more weeks the cemetery will accept the word of the Funeral Director that the death has occurred. A copy of the DD-214 form of the deceased must be presented to the Funeral Director to verify the Service connection and right to be buried at the facility, and make the arrangements.**
- 2. A United States flag will be provided for the casket, and will accompany the deceased to the Cemetery.**
- 3. The family will be notified of the day of the burial, the exact time, and the time to arrive to meet with the Military Chaplains, select the grave marker and be told exactly what will occur during the service.**
- 4. If the deceased is accepted at Arlington and given Full Military Honors, this will include:**
 - a. The casket on a horse drawn caisson with pall bearers.**
 - b. A full Military Band.**
 - c. A bugler to play taps.**
 - d. A three man rifle unit to fire the 21 gun salute and a leader of the group.**

- e. Two Military Chaplains.
- f. An Arlington Lady, so no service man will ever be buried alone, in case no family or friends can be there. The ladies are all volunteers.
- g. The flag is folded properly by the pall bearers, and presented to the family by one of the Chaplains.
- h. A book about Arlington is provided to the family as well as a Family Pass for the family to visit any time the Cemetery is open.

(The Arlington National Cemetery Service received from Mrs. E. Kay Reed)

“ALL HANDS BURY THE DEAD”

CEREMONIAL BURIAL AT SEA



The historical rite of burial at sea is a centuries old maritime tradition, a custom among sea-going men for as long as ships have sailed the seven seas. It affords the opportunity to honor those who gave of themselves in the service of their country.

SERVICE:

1. The licensed Coast Guard Captain commissioned to perform such a service should be scrupulous in seeing that all laws are complied with and all forms or certificates are signed and returned to the proper authorities. The officer in charge will serve as the Vessel of Honor during the funeral service.
2. The Vessel of Honor, together with other Auxiliary vessels, should gather at the burial site at the appointed time. It is suggested that they form a "V" with the Vessel of Honor at the point of the "V". All vessels should be stopped heading into the wind. If necessary, for safety, they may remain at dead slow ahead.

3. It is suggested, for safety in small boats, that, the participants remain in the cockpits facing the Vessel of Honor. At the command, "All Hands Bury The Dead," all vessels should stop and the National and Auxiliary Ensigns be dipped at half mast.
4. The officer in command will then have the container of ashes brought on deck. The bearer should face aft with his (her) back to the wind. Eight bells may then be tolled. "Taps" should be played and Auxiliary members should render sharp salutes.
5. The following appropriate service should be adhered to. However, if weather and sea conditions dictate, it may be shortened to not less than the Committal and Benediction. Auxiliarists remain with heads covered and salute during the committal.

THE COMMITTAL:

Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend the soul of Thy servant departed, now called unto eternal rest, and we commit his/her body to the deep.*

***The bearer at the appropriate time should open the container of ashes and scatter them so that they are carried by the wind over the surface of the sea. Auxiliarists remain with heads covered and salute during the committal.**

THE BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless thee and keep thee, the Lord make His face to shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee, the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.

At the end of the ceremony, a flower may be placed on the water and another given to the next of kin. The flotilla should then reform and return to base; the Auxiliarists should be two blocked.



(Photos courtesy of Div.4, D8-CR)

CROSSING THE BAR

**Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me,
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.**

**Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;**

**For tho' out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.**

TAPS

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commanding Officer
Coast Guard Station
Chetco River

P.O. Box 2417
Harbor, OR 97415
Phone: (503) 469-9268

02 November 1992

To the Family of Christine Bell Browning,

Be it known: that on this day, on the Pacific Ocean in position 41-59.57N 124-19.15W, approximately 3 nautical miles from the port of Harbor, Oregon; the ashes of Christine Bell Browning were laid to rest by the crew of the Coast Guard Motor Lifeboat 44312.

We pray for fair winds and following seas.

Sincerely,

DANIEL L. THOMPSON
Chief Warrant Officer

NOTE: This sample above can be prepared for the family of an Auxiliarist who was buried at sea. It was not a certificate but rather a letter signed by the Coast Guardsman in charge of the boat being used in the ceremony. This would be very meaningful to the deceased's family.

JOHN G. ARMSTRONG

The tides of life have ebbed for a shipmate, and we, his fellow members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, gather here to honor his memory.

John Armstrong was a valued member of the Kansas City South Flotilla 30-13. He has served the Auxiliary well in the past as Flotilla Commander, Division Captain, Rear Commodore, and now as Branch Chief – Public Affairs on the National Staff and on the Division Staff as Communications Officer. He has served in many capacities helping his fellow members to learn about their role in the Auxiliary. John was an AUXOP.

“Our Lord has called our shipmate to sail with Him in eternally calm waters – forever free from the storms and tempests of mortal life.

We honor and cherish the memory of our shipmate, but we do not mourn for him – for he has found refuge in the great harbor of eternal peace. Rather, it is for ourselves that we mourn; for a good friend has slipped his moorings in the night and is no longer among us. We will miss his hand on the helm. We will miss his shoulder next to ours. We will miss his encouragement and counsel as we meet the storm and strife of life.

We of the Coast Guard Auxiliary mourn our loss, but we are consoled by the abiding faith that when the final watch changes for us and we too cross the bar, our shipmate will be waiting to conn us into safe anchorage.

JOHN G. ARMSTRONG

John has been a valued member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary for almost thirteen years. He joined Flotilla 31-01 on June 14, 1977, and in November 1982 became a part of Flotilla 31-05. In August 1989, he transferred to Flotilla 30-13.

He has served his Auxiliary well in many capacities serving in the past as Flotilla Commander, Division Captain, and Rear Commodore and now as Branch Chief – Public Affairs on the National Staff and on the Division Staff as Communications Officer.

John will be sorely missed.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen

NOTE: Sample of the personal test used at an Auxiliarist's funeral.