

Cemetery Eligibility and Rules

American Legion Cemetery

700 Aspen Lane

Seward, Alaska 99664

The following rules will apply to the use of the property located at approximately 1.5 Mile Seward Highway, Seward Alaska, address 700 Aspen Lane; legal definition is Fort Raymond Subdivision, parcel #14502610. It is known as the American Legion Cemetery, owned, and managed by American Legion Seward Post 5.

1. At the certification of death of a person eligible for burial in the American Legion Cemetery in Seward, Alaska, the mortician, or person responsible for funeral arrangements should request interment by completing the attached form (ALSP5 Form 001) and sending to the American Legion Post Board of Officers (Attn: Post Commander). The Post Commander in consultation with the Post Board of Officers will verify eligibility for burial and will provide notification to the City of Seward of the eligibility for burial in order for the issuance of the burial permit to the requesting individual.
2. Persons eligible for burial in the American Legion Cemetery will be Honorably Discharged Veterans of the United States Military, including the United States Coast Guard.
3. Honorably Discharged Veterans will have their Headstone/niche marker provided, at no cost to the family, by the Veterans Administration and will meet the criteria identified in paragraphs 10 and 11 below. The American Legion Seward Post 5 Adjutant will complete the requisite forms with the family to ensure accurate headstone/niche size and markings.
4. The following are additionally eligible for burial in the American Legion Cemetery in Seward Alaska:
 - a. Members the Reserve Component of the Armed Services and members of the Army National Guard, the Air National Guard, Military Service Academies and the Reserve Officers Training Corps of the Army, Navy, or Air Force.
 - i. Members of these organizations whose death occur while hospitalized or undergoing treatment, at the expense of the United States, for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions, while on duty or service or performing travel to or from that duty or service may also be eligible.
 - b. The spouse, widow, widower or a current member of the Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion may be buried in the grave adjoining the veteran.
 - i. Additionally, widows, widowers, or current members of the Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion who are eligible spouses or children of the military member of the United States Armed Forces who were lost or buried at sea or determined to be permanently absent in a status of missing or missing in action may also be eligible.
 - ii. A headstone deposit of \$500.00 is required upon request of burial for a full casket burial and \$250.00 for a niche marker. Deposit will be returned upon the decedent's family providing a headstone/niche marker in accordance with this policy, see paragraph 12. If headstone or niche marker is not provided within one (1) year the deposit will be forfeit.
 - c. Should the service member or veteran die before his or her wife or husband, an adjoining grave site or columbarium niche may be reserved upon a written request at the time of burial. Such reservations are subject to review every two years and eligibility would cease upon remarriage unless, the widow or widower, is a current member of the Auxiliary. Failure to make a reservation at the time of initial burial would not preclude burial in the same cemetery. However, adjacent burial plots cannot be guaranteed if an earlier reservation request is not received by the Post.
 - d. Minor children of an eligible service member or current Auxiliary or Son of the American Legion member may be buried in the American Legion Cemetery.

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5. Burial of an adult child (over 19 years of age) is not authorized unless he or she were unmarried and physically or developmentally disabled and incapable of self-support and consequently dependent for support upon the parents or others if both parents are deceased and were themselves eligible.
6. Regarding Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion requests for eligibility for burial, a current membership in either the Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion card will be acceptable.
7. The following persons are ineligible for internment in the American Legion Cemetery in Seward, Alaska:
 - a. Fathers, Mothers, and In-laws: except for those who are current members of the Seward Post 5 American Legion Family.
 - b. Adult children of veterans (whether living or deceased) who are not members of Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion.
 - c. Persons who received a military discharge other than Honorable
 - d. Persons who have been convicted of a Class A, B, or C Federal Offense, Alaska Class A, B Felony or an Unclassified Felony, or convicted of a crime resulting in loss of US citizenship.
8. If the veteran status of the deceased is not known by the Post Board of Officers as verified by the Post Adjutant, it will be the responsibility of the deceased veteran's family to provide verification of military service and discharge characterization. The following are acceptable means of proof of service:
 - a. Service Discharge (DD214 or other recognized official discharge)
 - b. American Legion membership card
 - c. Veterans Administration (VA) card
9. Internment method and plot size will be completed in accordance with the City of Seward standard for burial sites. The individuals requesting burial for the decedent are responsible for conformance to the City of Seward burial standards identified in the City of Seward pamphlet titled Burial Procedures for Funeral Homes and Professional Contractors.
10. Headstones for veterans for full casket graves will be ordered through the Veterans Administration and will be made of standard flat bronze material as provided by the Veterans Administration. The dimensions will be twelve (12") inches wide and twenty-four (24") inches long. Nothing on the headstone will be extending above ground level.
11. Identification and Inscription will be made in accordance with VA Guidelines found in VA Form VA40-1330. Niche markers for the interment of ashes in the cemetery's columbarium will be selected using this same form. The dimensions will be eight and a half (8 ½") inches long and five and a half (5 ½) inches wide, with a seven-sixteenth (7/16") inch rise as defined by the Veterans Administration.
12. Headstones for non-veterans burial in standard graves will be flat and composed of white marble, light gray granite or bronze and will not be larger than twelve (12) inches wide and twenty-four (24) inches long. Niche markers for non-veterans will not be larger than eight and a half (8 ½") inches long and five and a half (5 ½) inches wide, and not exceed a seven-sixteenth (7/16") inch rise.
13. Burial at the American Legion Seward Post 5 Cemetery is authorized for eligible American Legion Family members in either a standard grave or the placement of cremains in the Seward Post 5 Cemetery's columbarium. Burial permits are required for both types of burials (full sized casket and cremains).
14. Permitted cremains will be allowed to be placed upon the same gravesite of an eligible veteran or eligible American Legion Family member. Burial authorization must be secured prior to placement via a request to the Seward Post 5 Commander and reviewed by the Post Board of Officers. A City of Seward Burial Permit and a headstone are both required for any cremains interred on an already existing gravesite.

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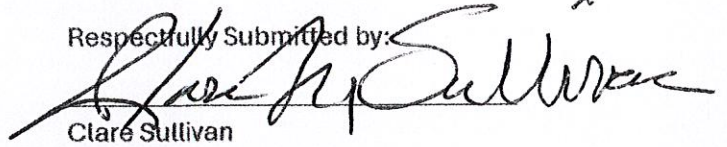
15. Cut flowers will be permitted at funerals and legal holidays and will need to be removed upon the wilting of the flowers and not to exceed forty-eight (48) hours. Permanent decorations, live planting of any vegetation is not permitted.
16. An interred member of the Post, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion will be provided a grave marker identifying their membership or status by their member organization.

ATTEST:



David Squires
Judge Advocate

Respectfully Submitted by:



Clare Sullivan
Commander

Adopted by Seward Post 5 Executive Board and Members Present on:

13 August 2024



Eligibility Request and Agreement for Internment in the American Legion Seward Post 5 Cemetery

1. I request eligibility determination be made for the burial of: _____ in the American Legion Seward Post 5 Cemetery in a: (**select one**) _____ new full grave, _____ existing full grave, _____ columbarium niche. _____ (initial)
2. I am providing the following as proof of United States military service and/or membership in one of the following organizations: Seward Post 5, Unit 5, Squadron 5. Minor child or disabled son or daughter of eligible member may also be interred. Verification provided is _____ and a copy is attached for reference (documents will be returned upon final Post Board review and eligibility decision). _____(initial)
3. Upon approval from the Post Board for burial, I will obtain a burial permit from the City of Seward. _____(Initial). Please visit the City of Seward, Internment Permits and Reservations, Private Cemetery Authorization Form.
4. I agree to ensure the internment method and plot size will be completed in accordance with the City of Seward standard of burial procedures. _____(Initial).). Please visit the City of Seward, Internment Permits and Reservations.
5. I agree for the placement of standard flat veterans (VA) headstone and same flat type for non-veteran burials. _____(Initial)
6. I agree to a \$500.00 headstone/marker deposit for full casket burial or a \$250.00 deposit for a niche marker for non-veteran burials.
7. I agree to have headstone/niche marker to be placed within one (1) year of burial. _____(initial).
8. If a headstone is not placed within one (1) year, the deposit for a non-veteran headstone/marker will be forfeit, and Seward Post 5 will provide a headstone identifying the decedent. _____(Initial).
9. I acknowledge that gravesite adornments are permitted and encouraged, however they are temporary and will need to be removed within forty-eight (48) hours of placement, prior to Memorial Day Ceremonies and preceding the first snow of the winter. Live plants in containers or planting of any vegetation is not permitted. _____(Initial)
10. I agree to not place any fragile or glass decorations on the gravesite. _____(initial).
11. I understand that no intoxicants are permitted on cemetery grounds. _____(initial).

Signature

Date