



United States Air Force Funeral Flyovers



Funeral Flyover General Information

The United States Air Force (USAF) authorizes funeral/memorial flyovers for Air Force members who are actively serving rated officers or career enlisted aviators or actively serving non-rated members whose death occurs in the line of duty performing aviation duties. Flyovers are also authorized regardless of aeronautical rating for Air Force retired or honorably separated: 3 & 4-star Generals or CMSgt's of the Air Force, aviators who have achieved at least one officially recognized aerial victory, former Prisoners of War, and Medal of Honor or AF Cross recipients. All others require Air Force Operations Group Commander exception to policy approval. Reference DAFI 11-209 and DAFI 34-160 for details.

All requests for USAF Funeral Flyovers must originate from the Next of Kin and are submitted to HQ Air Force Mortuary Affairs/Honor Guard via the local servicing base Mortuary Officer, Honor Guard, funeral home, or directly from the family themselves. Please see contact information below if the family desires to submit a request directly to HQ Air Force Mortuary Affairs/Honor Guard.

Funeral flyovers are conducted on a 100% volunteer basis by our Air Force flying squadrons and must be incorporated into scheduled training sorties. Due to the time/location of the flyover request, unit training requirements/schedules, location of training activities, weather, real-world readiness requirements, and a number of other factors outside the control of the Air Force, regrettably many flyover requests are unable to be filled. A minimum of 7 working days are required to process requests and give units sufficient time to volunteer if able. We appreciate your understanding.

Note: Funeral flyovers are not considered public events and Public Affairs is not involved in the approval process; therefore, a DD Form 2535 (Request for Military Aerial Support) is not required.

Arlington National Cemetery

Funeral flyover requests at Arlington National Cemetery can be submitted directly to HQ Air Force Mortuary Affairs/Honor Guard. Please see contact information below.

- Flyovers are normally scheduled between 0900 and 1500 daily and may be curtailed, delayed or canceled due to Presidential movements out of Andrews AFB and the White House, or real-world contingencies.
- Due to the special airspace restrictions in the National Capital Region, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires at least 3-business days (in addition to the timelines mentioned above and assuming aforementioned approvals are completed) to coordinate Arlington National Cemetery flyover approval. Exceptions to this requirement are at the discretion of the FAA and are unlikely to be granted.

Contact Information

For questions or to request a funeral flyover please contact HQ Air Force Mortuary Affairs/Honor Guard by emailing AFMAO.HG.HONORGUARD@us.af.mil, or by calling 1-800-531-5803. For additional information, please visit their website: <https://www.mortuary.af.mil/>