



# Missing In America Project

**AFTER ACTION REPORT**  
**Washington State Veterans Cemetery**  
**November 16, 2022**

In conjunction with Dignity Memorial's Butterworth Funeral Home, Mills and Mills Funeral Home and the Grays Harbor County Coroner's Office, the Missing In America Project made the 270 mile trip from Seattle to the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake. Along with one MIAP vehicle, Dignity Memorial provided a hearse, a van and drivers. We transported 106 veterans, 19 spouses, and 8 children. The veterans being interred served in the US Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines during the Spanish American War, WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and non-war periods.

PGR and ALR provided escort for the last 50 miles and the flag line at the cemetery. The temperature was 26 degrees but four dedicated riders led the procession on their bikes.

The Forgotten Heroes Ceremony was hosted by the Washington State Veterans Cemetery Staff led by the emcee of the event and Cemetery Director Rudy Lopez. Guest speakers included Maj. Patrick Bracken, USAF Chaplain; Alfie Alvarado Ramos, WDVA Director; David Puente, WDVA Deputy Director; Rob Goff, WSFDA CEO, the WA State MIAP Coordinator and Jerry Herker, Dept. of WA VFW COS. Taps was played by CPL Ethan Wynecoop of the Washington State Patrol Honor Guard. Bagpipes were played by Kenyon Fields of the Angus Scott Pipe Band.

Military Honors were rendered by Airmen from Fairchild AFB.

The cremains will be placed in their final resting place throughout the next couple of months.

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<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2022/nov/17/unclaimed-remains-of-133-veterans-and-relatives-br/>

<https://www.q13fox.com/video/1143167>

<https://www.facebook.com/wsdva/videos/1098134117571785>

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/service-corporation-international-missing-in-america-project-to-inter-99-unclaimed-veterans-301667761.html>

On November 14, 2022, a media event was sponsored by Dignity Memorial's Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home and Cemetery in Seattle, WA.

