



Missing in America Project

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**AFTER ACTION REPORT
MIAP-FL CALL TO HONOR #30
SOUTH FLORIDA NATIONAL CEMETERY
LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022
10:00AM**

The unclaimed cremated remains interred during this service were 21 from the Kraeer Funeral Home at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in Pompano Beach, and 3 from the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department's Indigent Cremation Services.

This MIAP-FL service included the cremains of 17 veterans and 7 dependent spouses of veterans, as follows:

- US Army – 10 veterans and 4 spouses
- US Navy – 5 veterans and 3 spouses
- US Air Force – 2 veterans

The veterans served during World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam and other non-war specific periods. The longest that any of those interred has been unclaimed is since 1955.

Paul Markonni, MIAP Veteran Recovery Team Leader, coordinated the planning of this service. Other MIAP-FL team members involved in the identification of the veterans and spouses, recovery of their cremains, and preparing for the service, included Roberta Battis, Diane DeLorie, Patricia Rizzo and Jim Campbell.

This service was supported by:

The Director, and the staff, of the South Florida National Cemetery

Military Funeral Honors, Navy Region Southeast

Active-duty military service participants

Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Traffic Motor Unit

The South Florida Woodworking Guild and Gold Coast Woodturners

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 25, West Palm Beach

American Legion Post 271, Tequesta

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 271, Tequesta

Wellington South Super Target Store, Lake Worth

American Legion Post 164, Boynton Beach

Veterans of Foreign Wars Chapter 133, Pompano Beach

Numerous veterans' organizations whose members were pallbearers, or flag or flower carriers.

This service was done in two parts. The first part was at a cemetery committal shelter and included the transportation of the cremains to the site led by the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Traffic Motor Unit followed by an escort of approximately 20 motorcycles, the procession of urns, and folded flags or flowers, carried by volunteers, an Invocation, presenting the colors, singing the National Anthem, a welcome by the Cemetery Director, the reading of the names of those being interred during this service and the ringing of the bell for veterans, the volley, Taps, folding of a flag by a two person US Air Force team, and the presentation of the flag to a member of the America Legion Auxiliary in the absence of any family members.

For the second part of the service everyone walked to the columbarium with the urns, and flags or flowers, carried by the volunteers. Each urn was handed to, and a final salute was given by, an active-duty member of the branch of service in which the decedent, or the decedent's veteran spouse, served, and the urns were placed in the niches by a cemetery employee.

Eagle Scout Joshua Katz, the originator of the MIA-POW-OREE program, was present at the service, and placed one of the program's challenge coins in each niche. A final prayer was offered, and the service was concluded by Kathy Church, MIAP-FL State Coordinator. She thanked all who participated in this service. Her last remark was "We can now say YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN."

Total time for this service from start to finish was approximately 50 minutes.

This After Action Report was prepared by Paul Markonni.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Church
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