

AFTER ACTION REPORT
October 8, 2026
Crown Hill National Cemetery Annex, Indianapolis, IN

On October 8, 2026 Missing In America Project held a service to inurn one Navy veteran. A final salute was rendered by the local VFW, and American Legion posts/riders, Marine Riders, Combat Vet Riders, Rolling Thunder Indiana Chapter #1, and Indiana Patriot Guard Riders. A member of Rolling Thunder escorted the urn to the hearse while the flag was escorted by a member of the Indiana Patriot Guard.

The hearse was escorted into the cemetery by riders from the Indiana Chapter #1 Rolling Thunder, Patriot Guard, Combat Vets, Marine League, VFW and American Legion. A flag detail formed by Patriot Guard Riders surrounded the shelter for the service.

The urn was escorted from the hearse to the committal shelter by the assigned Navy Honor detail.

Fred Behnke, MIAP Kentucky State Coordinator, served as MC of the service. Erin Hamilton, Program Specialist for Crown Hill National Cemetery, welcomed everyone to the service, gave a short history of the cemetery and thanked everyone for coming out to honor this unclaimed veteran. Fred then also welcomed and thanked everyone for honoring this veteran, stressing that he is no longer unclaimed and that everyone attending is now his family and he is not forgotten.

James Kite, commander of the Indy Metropolitan Military Honor Guard, said a few words commending the veteran for his service and acknowledging that he is not forgotten.

The Chaplain, Tom Ransdell, retired USAF and Chaplain for the Indiana Rolling Thunder Chapter 1, presided over the committal service. A rifle volley was provided by the Indy Metropolitan Military Honor Guard and playing of Taps was performed by a bugler from the American Legion.

The name of the veteran was read by Fred Behnke, followed by the ringing of Eight-bells. The flag was folded by the Navy Honor Detail and presented to Benjamin Sanders (Jessen Funeral Home and Simple Cremations).

A final salute was rendered by those present from the VFW, American Legion, Kentucky Patriot Guard Riders, Combat Vets, Marine Riders, Rolling Thunder, active-duty military members, and members of the various VA departments.

The urn was escorted to the columbarium by Ms. Sophia McCormick, who was his caseworker, where it was inurned with the chaplain saying a prayer concluding the service.

The mission was a complete success due to the efforts of the entire staff of the Crown Hill National Cemetery Annex and all who were in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by Fred Behnke, KY State Coordinator