



Missing In America Project

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After Action Report Tahoma National Cemetery Kent, Washington

24 September 2026

On September 23, 2026, the Washington State MIAP Team conducted a service for 20 veterans, 8 spouses and 2 children. There were 4 Army WWI veterans, 13 Merchant Marine WWII veterans and 3 Canadian Expeditionary Force WWI veterans.

The veterans' cremains were identified and recovered with the cooperation and assistance of Dignity Memorial's Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home and Cemetery, Scott Sheehan, General Manager. The spouses and children were recovered from Marshall Slight, the Yakima County Coroner. Assistance was provided by Laura Goche from the Tahoma Cemetery in Yakima, WA. The coroner's unclaimed are stored at the Tahoma Cemetery.

A MIAP team member gave a brief summary on the US Merchant Marine service in WWII, the CEF in WWI and the eligibility criteria that the veterans had to meet for placement at a National Cemetery.

Funeral honors were conducted by the Washington Army National Guard from Camp Murray. Bugler Jim Kellett played taps. Chaplain Randy Leno did the invocation, benediction and conveyed the meaning of the folds of the flag while it was being prepared for presentation.

MIAP volunteers Mare Saunders and Mike Morrissey conducted roll call.

The flag was presented to Army veteran Anthony Quintero. Anthony is the WA PGR NW District Captain. He attends all our services and coordinates the urn transfers. Anthony has led multiple escort missions of over 250 miles for our services at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery.

We were supported by the PGR, DAR, Paws for Purple Hearts, and the Supreme Emblem Club of the USA. Stephanie Bush, the Survival Assistance & Memorial Support (SAMS) Coordinator with the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System was in attendance.

You Are Not Forgotten

Thomas E. Keating ~ Washington State Coordinator
Lynn Lake ~ Assistant WA State Coordinator