



# Missing In America Project

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## **After Action Report Washington State Veterans Cemetery 9/15/2026**

On September 10, 2026, the Washington State Veterans Cemetery conducted a service for 36 veterans, 85 spouses and 2 children. The veterans served from the Civil War through WWII in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard and the Merchant Marine. There were 32 married couples.

One hundred twenty-one unclaimed were from Dignity Memorial's Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home and Cemetery. One veteran was recovered from the Yakima County Coroner and a spouse was recovered from the Whatcom County Medical Examiner.

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 were Scott Sheehan, General Manager of the Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home and Cemetery, and the WA MIAP State Coordinator.

The chaplain was LTC Jerry Malone, USA, retired. Taps was played by TSgt David Halverson, USAF, retired. The Funeral Honors were performed by the Spokane Area Veterans Honor Guard. The Forgotten Heroes Roll Call was done by Dennis Ochs, PGR, and Lynn Lake, MIAP Assistant State Coordinator.

The PGR escorted the hearse 240 miles from North Bend, WA to the cemetery. The WA State Patrol, Spokane Valley PD and the Spokane Co. Sheriff's Office provided escort and traffic control for the final 50 miles to the cemetery. The PGR also transferred the cremains from the hearse. The urns will be placed in their final location over the next several months.

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Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Keating  
Washington State Coordinator