



Missing In America Project

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After Action Report Washington State Veterans Cemetery 9/20/2024

At 1300 hours on September 19, 2024, the Washington State Veterans Cemetery conducted a service for 29 veterans, 13 spouses and 5 children provided by the WA State MIAP Team. The veterans served in the Army, Navy, USMC, USAF, USCG and the Merchant Marine in WWI (16), WWII (7) and Vietnam (3). Three soldiers served between 1905 and 1935 in non-war periods.

The cremains were recovered with cooperation from Lake View Cemetery in Seattle and the Benton County Coroner in Kennewick, WA.

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 the cemetery chaplain, LTC Jerry Malone, USA, retired, and Daniel Neese, American Battlefields Monuments Commission Director, retired.

Taps was played by SGT Ethan Wynecoop of the Washington State Patrol. The Melvin M. Smith Detachment/Marine Corps League provided the rifle team and read the roll call. The flag folding and presentation was done by the USMC Reserves from Yakima, WA.

Bagpipes were played by Debbie Cole of the Angus Scott Pipe Band.

Due to staffing and workload issues, nineteen of the cremains had been placed in their niches the week prior to the service.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Keating
Washington State Coordinator