

Casualty Assistance for Surviving Spouses / Relatives

- Notify ??? for assistance (have you asked someone to assist your spouse / relative).
- Location of Key Documents is Attached Casualty Assistance Checklist is helpful for recording information.
- Notify Retiree Office in JUSMAG for assistance. (These guys can also arrange a VFW US Military presentation at cremation and will give Gung and American Flag at that time).
- Obtain Death Certificate from Hospital.
- Obtain Death of a US Citizen Abroad Certificate from US Embassy.
- Schedule a Funeral / Cremation ceremony at Church or Temple in Bangkok; body moved from hospital to church or temple can be cremated same day if desired.
- Pay Hospital Bill.
- Notify Department of Defense Finance and Accounting System of death; stop retirement pay, Wife? is the beneficiary for any remaining pay owed.**
- Notify Social Security of Death; stop Social Security Payments**
- Notify US Veteran's Administration of Death; stop disability payments**
- VA Form 21-0966 Apply for VA burial benefits (JUSMAG) INTENT TO FILE A CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION AND/OR PENSION, OR SURVIVORS PENSION AND/OR DIC (RAO)
- VA Form 21-22 Appointment of Veterans Service Organization as Claimant's Representative
- Contact Banks to change all accounts to your (survivor's name) name or to have money withdrawn. For Thai accounts this involves a court order to close the account and give the money to the beneficiary.
- Use will (make sure you have a will – this can be from your home country or one done in Thailand) to transfer ownership of condo, possessions etc to ??? name (Note most lawyers do not recommend having more than one will. A will from your home country can be translated into Thai and certified to be used in a Thai court.)

- Transfer automatic bill payments (TOT Phone, AIS, Electric, Cable TV TRUE, Internet Service TRUE) so they come out of wife's account at Bank because your account will be frozen after you die.
- Then contact Bank to obtain funds from you're the deceased account after obtaining necessary court order.
- Cancel credit cards after paying medical bills; file TRICARE Overseas claim for medical benefits – Claim will go to bank account automatically (JUSMAGTHAI Tricare medical office can assist).
- Apply for any Insurance death payment (make sure policy location is known).
- Ensure DEERS records show death but that dependent spouse is alive. (JUSMAG can provide assistance).
- Notify associations of death – MOAA, VFW, American Legion, National Infantryman's Association, 1-Unit Associations, School Alumni Associations.
- Spouse may have to file income tax for year service member dies with US Government by April 15 the year following the year he dies. Perhaps some money back. May have to find tax advisor for assistance or use Turbo Tax. If there is a long-term US income in place (Survivor benefit, Social Security etc) may have to continue filing US income tax as the US government will tax these payments but usually filing will get you the money back based on level of income.
- See attached Casualty Assistance Checklist for an idea on how to organize information.
Suggest you keep all of this in one easy to find place.

-----End-----