



# UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA GERONTOLOGY

Do You Have The Cour**AGE** to Care?



Omaha National Cemetery

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is committed to the development and expansion of cemeteries for Veterans. Today, approximately 95 percent of Veterans live within 75 miles of an open national or state/tribal run Veterans' cemetery.

Click [here](#) to view the National Cemetery Administration brochure.

## DIRECTOR OMAHA NATIONAL CEMETERY

Cindy M. Van Bibber was named Director of Omaha National Cemetery, effective Sept. 6, 2015. She is responsible for all administrative, burial and maintenance operations for Omaha National Cemetery, Fort McPherson National Cemetery and the soldier's lot at Forest Lawn in Omaha.

Ms. Van Bibber has more than 10 years of service with the U.S. Army. Her service included assignments in Korea, Kansas and with the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Belgium.

Click [here](#) to read rest of her bio.

## OMAHA NATIONAL CEMETERY

Located at 14250 Schram Road, Omaha, NE 68138

The new 236-acre cemetery in Sarpy County, Nebraska, will serve the burial needs of more than 112,000 Veterans in the cemetery's service area for the next 100 years. This cemetery will be the second Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) national cemetery in the State of Nebraska.

The Omaha National cemetery was dedicated August 6, 2016 with first burials taking place on September 27, 2016 in an early turn-over of a portion of property. Burial options include placement of caskets and urns. Casketed interments can take place in one of the 2,900 pre-placed double-depth crypts or in one of the 400 traditional sites. Inurnment of cremated remains can be placed in one of the 1,800 above ground columbarium niches, in one of the 1,200 in-ground plots or in the ossuary.

For more information about the Omaha National Cemetery call the cemetery at 402-253-3949.

Click here to [read](#) rest of the history of the Omaha National Cemetery.

## HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

In July 17, 1862 Congress enacted legislation that authorized the President to purchase "cemetery grounds" to be used as national cemeteries "for soldiers who shall have died in the service of the country."

By 1870, the remains of nearly 300,000 Union dead had been buried in 73 national cemeteries. All honorably discharged Veterans became eligible for burial in 1873.

In 1973, Public Law 93-43 authorized the transfer of 82 national cemeteries from the Department of the Army to the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

On Nov. 11, 1998, the President signed the Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998 changing the name of the National Cemetery System (NCS) to the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). In August 2016, VA opened its 135th cemetery – Omaha National Cemetery.

Today, there are more than 22 million living Veterans who have earned the honor of burial in a national cemetery.

Click [here](#) to read more on the history of the National Cemetery Administration.

## FACTS ABOUT THE NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION (NCA)

NCA maintains 3.7 million graves with approximately 700,000 additional developed gravesites available.

NCA manages approximately 21,400 acres within its cemeteries.

Of the 136 VA national cemeteries, 78 are open to all interments.

Oldest National Cemetery: 12 established in 1862.

More than 5.4 million people visited VA national cemeteries in FY 2018.

Twenty percent of U.S. Veterans (596,000), who died in the U.S. and Puerto Rico in FY 2018 were buried in a national, state or tribal Veterans cemetery.

Click [here](#) to view more facts about the NCA

## ARRANGING FOR BURIAL IN A VA NATIONAL CEMETERY

Burial in a VA national cemetery is open to all members of the armed forces and Veterans who have met minimum active duty service requirements, as applicable, and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

Click [here](#) to read for eligibility requirements and contact information.

## PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL CERTIFICATE (PMC)

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is a gold-embossed paper certificate bearing the official signature of the President of the United States. It honors the memory of a deceased Veteran and expresses the country's grateful recognition of his or her service in the Armed Forces.

Click [here](#) to read more about the PMC.

## BURIAL FLAG

A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased Veteran who served honorably in the U. S. Armed Forces. It is furnished to honor the memory of a Veteran's military service to his or her country.

Click [here](#) to read who is eligible to receive the burial flag.

