



2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FEBRUARY 2010

WARRIOR · HEALER · HERO



WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER



2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the United States Department of Defense of the linked Web sites or the information, products or services contained therein. The United States Department of Defense does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. Such links are provided consistent with the stated purpose of this DoD Web site.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Below is a list of FAQs that will hopefully answer some of the questions you have as you begin to plan your visit to Washington, DC. Topics covered include:

Planning your Visit to Washington, DC	Page 1
Planning for the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony	Page 3
Day of the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony	Page 5
Staying Connected Between Now and Then	Page 6

If you still have questions or concerns after reading through the FAQs, send us an email at MHSRemembers@tma.osd.mil or call (202) 642.3386.

Planning your Visit to Washington, DC

Q. Will the government fund my travel?

Unfortunately, the government will not fund or subsidize travel expenses incurred while travelling to the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony.

Q. Will anyone be coordinating travel for attendees from out of the area?

The Department of Defense will not coordinate travel for attendees of the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony. Thorough information on conveniently-located, government-rate hotels in and around the DC area is available on the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony Facebook page at www.health.mil/remembers. Click on "Join the Remembrance Ceremony Facebook Group" in the right pane.

Q. Will there be escorts for families at area airports?

We will do our best to accommodate those with special needs and circumstances, but at this time, we will not have family escorts located at area airports. However, you can check with the hotel at which you are staying to inquire about their possible shuttle services from area airports.

Q. Where can I get a list of activities, events, attractions, or tours in the Washington DC area?

For a list of things to see and visit in the Washington, D.C. area, view the downloadable pdf packet, "Activities, Museums, and Tours" from the Remembrance Ceremony Web site at





2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

www.health.mil/remembers.

Q. Are there hotels close to Arlington National Cemetery?

There are many hotel choices in and around the Washington DC area. Go to www.health.mil/remembers to view the downloadable pdf packet, "Hotels in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area."

Q. Which airport should I fly into?

There are three airports serving the Washington, D.C. area: Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (airport code DCA), Washington Dulles International Airport (airport code IAD), and Baltimore-Washington International Airport (airport code BWI). Public transportation is available from all three airports, as are shared taxi services and shuttles.

- *Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport* (airport code DCA) is located in Arlington County and is the airport closest to both Arlington National Cemetery and downtown Washington. It is located on metro's Yellow/Blue Line at the Ronald Regan Washington National Airport stop.
- *Washington Dulles International Airport* (airport code IAD) is located approximately 35 minutes away from Arlington and approximately 40 minutes outside of downtown Washington, D.C. There are Washington Flyer taxis available that will take you to Arlington for about \$45.00 and to downtown DC for about \$55.00 – \$60.00. There is also a Washington Flyer Coach Bus (\$10.00 one way or \$18.00 round trip) that takes you to the West Falls Church Station on Metro's Orange Line in about 20 – 30 minutes. Information about the Washington Flyer services is available at www.washfly.com. Alternately, you can take Metro Bus 5A for \$3.10, which will take you directly from the airport to either downtown Arlington (Rosslyn metro stop on the Orange/Blue Line) or downtown DC (L'Enfant Plaza stop on the Yellow/Green or Orange/Blue Lines). The time table for the 5A is available here: <http://wmata.com/bus/timetables/dc/05a.pdf>.
- *Baltimore-Washington International Airport* (airport code BWI) is located south of Baltimore approximately 50 minutes away from Arlington and 40 minutes outside of Washington, D.C. Transportation from the airport to DC is readily available through car, Amtrak and commuter train. Visit the airport Web site www.bwiairport.com for more information.

Q. How does the metro in Washington, D.C. work? How can I get tickets to ride?

The Washington, D.C. metro makes getting around the city quick and easy. Each person needs a fare card to ride Metrorail. Fare cards hold between \$1.35 and \$45 and are available at fare vending machines in all Metrorail stations. If you plan on taking the metro frequently during your visit, you may purchase a permanent, reloadable fare card, called a SmarTrip card. SmarTrip cards cost \$10.00 (with \$5.00 value pre-loaded) and are also sold through vending machines at all stations where parking is available, at Metro Center (Orange/Blue Lines and Red Line), or online at <http://wmata.com>. An interactive map of all lines and stations is available at <http://wmata.com/rail/maps/map.cfm>.





2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Q. For touring museums in Washington, D.C., will I need tickets in advance? How do I get them?

Advance ticket purchasing depends on the museum. Many museums in the Washington, D.C. area do not require tickets or advanced ticket purchasing. Please go to www.health.mil/remembers to view the downloadable pdf packet, "Activities, Museums, and Tours."

Q. What should I wear to the Remembrance Ceremony?

March weather in Washington, D.C. can be very unpredictable, with temperatures ranging anywhere from 35 – 60 degrees Fahrenheit; layers are always a good choice. Dress for the ceremony is business casual, appropriate for a memorial service.

Q. Will I need a rental car to get to the event or is the Department of Defense providing a shuttle from respective hotels?

Renting a car is a personal preference. While the DoD will not be providing a shuttle to the Remembrance Ceremony, Arlington National Cemetery and most points of interest are on a metro line, which is an easy and inexpensive way to get around town. Should you prefer a car, all airports in the area have information on rental options. Public parking is available in many DC-area locations, but parking downtown can be quite expensive.

Planning for the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony

Q. How many family members or friends can I bring? Are children invited?

Since the Remembrance Ceremony is invitation only, formal invitations are sent to the next of kin as designated by the fallen military medical service member. However, there is no limit to the number of guests per invitation; children are welcomed, but please remember that the ceremony is an hour to 90-minute long outdoor event.

Q. Is the ceremony open to the public?

No, the Remembrance Ceremony is an invitation-only event. It is closed to family members, loved ones, Department of Defense, military, and military medical leadership.

Q. Is there an inclement weather plan?

As with all ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony will be held rain or shine.

Q. Will the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony be a seated or standing event? Are accommodations available for handicapped and special needs attendees?

The 2010 Remembrance Ceremony will be a seated event, and there are no stairs to climb at the Old Amphitheater. We will ensure that all guests are comfortably accommodated.





2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Q. What is the deadline for RSVP for the Remembrance Ceremony?

The window to RSVP for the ceremony begins February 1 and extends to March 1. There are three options to RSVP: online at www.health.mil/remembers; email MHSRemembers@tma.osd.mil; or call (202) 642-3386.

Q. Will I need to bring anything to Arlington National Cemetery? Will I need special ID to get in?

You will not need to bring anything to Arlington National Cemetery and there is no requirement to show identification. You can bring your invitation to the morning meet and greet at the Women in Military Service for America (on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery), but we maintain a list of all family members and loved ones who have sent their RSVP and plan to attend.

Q. Who will be honored at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony?

The Military Health System Remembrance Ceremony was established to honor those fallen military medical service members who sacrificed their lives while in the line of duty during Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2001 - December 31, 2009.

Q. How do I get tickets? Is there a cost? How many can I get?

The ceremony is an invitation-only event, and therefore tickets are not available for purchase. There is no limit on the number of relatives or guests you wish to bring with you.

Q. Will there be an opportunity for families to make personal remarks about their loved one(s)?

While there is no opportunity for families to make remarks during the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony itself, there are plenty of opportunities for families to speak to each other and remember together. We encourage all families to share their stories and learn about the many sacrifices made by all. A video recognizing each fallen medic will run continuously throughout the day's events.

The 2010 Remembrance Ceremony Facebook page at www.health.mil/remembers provides a forum for family discussion and sharing prior to and following the event. Learn more about the Facebook group in the section "Staying Connected Between Now and Then" below.

Q. Can family members submit a photo to be included in a program or remembrance book?

Families can upload casual photos of their fallen service member to the Military Health System Remembrance Ceremony Facebook page located at www.health.mil/remembers. Professional, high-resolution photos should be sent to the MHSRemembers@tma.osd.mil where it will be included on the MHS Honors and Remembers page.

Q. How will families be involved in the ceremony?

You are a guest of the Department of Defense and the Military Health System for this special ceremony honoring your loved one who gave so much as a warrior, healer, and hero. You will have opportunities to meet other families who share your experience. During the ceremony, you will hear remarks of respect and gratitude from military and military medical leaders who understand the sacrifice of your loved one and the importance of your presence.





2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Q. The morning meet and greet is at 8:00 am. The ceremony does not begin until 2:30 pm. What do we do in the meantime?

The morning meet and greet will be held at the Women in Military Service for America building located at Arlington National Cemetery. You are free to stay and visit with other family members, tour the cemetery, or visit some of the sites in our nation's capital. Go to www.health.mil/remembers to view the downloadable pdf packet, "Activities, Museums, and Tours." By joining the Facebook group and following us on Twitter, you will be notified of any additional events and other ceremony information.

Day of the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony

Q. What is the easiest way to get to the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony?

There are multiple options for transportation to the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony.

There is a metro stop at Arlington Cemetery (Blue Line) that takes you directly to the cemetery, and it is about a 20 minute walk from the metro station to the Old Amphitheater, the site of the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony.

You can also opt to drive to the cemetery, where limited parking will be available (see next question). We encourage you to take the metro if possible.

Q. Will there be parking available at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony? What about handicapped parking?

There will be limited parking available at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony. We encourage all attendees to take the metro. Should you decide to drive to the cemetery, there is a small lot adjacent to the Old Amphitheater at the former Administrative building; parking along the white line road is also permissible, but limited. There is also limited parking at the Visitor's Center or The Administration Building, but there will be 15 minute walk to the Old Amphitheater. Arlington National Cemetery will accommodate all who require handicapped parking.

Q. Can we take pictures at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony?

Yes – the ceremony is an occasion to honor your loved one, and we encourage you to take photos that will help you remember this special day.

Q. How long will the ceremony last?

The ceremony is an hour-long event, from 2:30 pm until 3:30 pm. See www.health.mil/mhsremembers for the ceremony sequence of events.

Q. When should we plan on arriving at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony?

The ceremony will begin promptly at 2:30 pm. All attendees should plan on arriving about 30 minutes prior to the start of the event, or about 2:00 pm. Subscribe to receive Twitter updates or go to www.health.mil/mhsremembers for any time changes.





2010 Remembrance Ceremony

DEDICATED TO FALLEN MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM AND OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Q. Will restrooms be available at the 2010 Remembrance Ceremony?

Yes, they are located in the building directly behind the old Administrative offices, adjacent to the Old Amphitheater.

Q. Where can I find the day's schedule for the Remembrance Ceremony?

A schedule of the ceremony day will soon be posted on the MHS Web site at <http://www.health.mil/mhsremembers>.

Q. Can flowers be placed on service members' gravesites at Arlington National Cemetery?

Yes, you are welcome to lay flowers on service members' gravesites.

Staying Connected Between Now and Then

Q. If we cannot attend the ceremony, is there another way to view it or to participate?

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to view the live ceremony online. However, a complete 2010 Remembrance Ceremony video will be available a few weeks after the ceremony on the Military Health System Web site, www.health.mil. All designated next of kin families will receive a copy of the video once it is reproduced and ready for mailing.

Q. Where can families go online to connect with other people attending the Remembrance Ceremony?

The Remembrance Ceremony Web site is www.health.mil/remembers. You can read about the purpose, history, and significance of the ceremony, as well as view the entire 2009 ceremony video and photographs. On the right tool pane, you can link to the Remembrance Ceremony Facebook page and request to join the group. Once you are a part of the group, you are welcomed to post your comments to the Wall, join the Discussion board, upload photos, letters, and even short videos.

Q. Where can I ask a question that is not covered in the FAQ's?

If you have additional questions, send us an email at MHSRemembers@tma.osd.mil or call (202) 642-3386 to speak to a Remembrance Ceremony coordinator.

Q. How will my hometown newspaper get information about this event?

You are free to contact your local news channels and newspapers regarding this event if you would like local coverage. We will send a media release to various military publications and large newspapers prior to the event.

