



Missing In America Project

www.miap.us

**After Action Report
Tahoma National Cemetery
September 9, 2017**

September 9, 2017, Honor Ride to Tahoma National Cemetery

20 recovered Veterans' remains were taken to TNC for final honors.

Mission Template was the same as other TNC missions from Lawless HD. This event turned out a little different. There was a "HOG" event in progress the same day. We were ignored by most of the guests and all the staff, except for some hospitality staff who moved us out of our assigned location so they could set up a bar for the other guests.

Elite Escort did come and provide service. As usual, they executed their tasks very well.

This year we had 15 bikes show up to participate. CVMA 11-7 was there with 12 bikes. The other 3 came from independent participants. CVMA 11-7 was the only "club" to attend.

Patriot Guard Riders were formed at the Cemetery and, in addition to CVMA and some of the Funeral Staff, two of their personnel assisted in bearing urns to the "alter". Two ladies from Gold Star Mothers also came to support us. One of them was "recruited" to sit in the chair and receive the flag. (In retrospect, this was a mistake I will not repeat, because of the effect it had on the lady.)

The service was short and sweet. No sermons were offered. The Officiants read the names, rang the bell for each Veteran, and conducted the flag folding ceremony and rifle salute. Taps was played by Bernie Mascowitz, who had the Duty today. As usual, Bernie played Taps perfectly.

The poor turnout, and the change in Lawless HD's attitude toward us stimulated post mission discussion with Lee Brown. We agree a change in template is called for. Future missions to TNC may be smaller, more frequent, and less publicized. We will continue

the annual transportation events to Medical Lake, but the group departing from the West Side for the Ritzville staging location will probably not follow their current mission template, either.

Of the 20 Veterans honored today, 14 came from the Kittitas County Coroner, 2 from Grays Harbor County Coroner, and 4 from Pierce County ME.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	DOB	DOD	SERVICE	Rank
Applegate	Delbert	Preston	8/23/1913	12/23/1987	Army	LT COL
Belt	Leslie	McNeil	8/2/1940	8/13/1996	Air Force	A2C
Bisson	Gerald	Franklin	4/24/1935	1/9/2017	Army	SP-4
Boie	Ernest	Gottlieb	8/21/1909	12/12/1994	Army	PFC
Buchanan	Norman	A	12/1/1938	8/15/1989	Air Force	A1 C
Clements	Carl	Wayne	10/22/1936	4/24/2002	Navy	SN
Fowler	Kevin	Hugh	2/13/1958	8/23/2016	Army	PV2
Henstone	Henry	Thomas	5/3/1924	2/21/2011	Navy	CS 2
Keitzman	Archibald	S	8/6/1926	9/8/2004	Army	SGT
Kimball	Kenneth	Allen	9/11/1930	1/15/2000	Navy	EN 2
Koch	Dean	Robert	5/31/1927	11/22/1999	Navy	Fireman 1st Class
McQueen	Robert	W	1/22/1917	4/13/2004	Navy	AOM1-C
Miller	Thomas	Eugene	11/21/1950	11/18/2016	Army	SP-4
Petterson	Delbert	A	3/15/1921	9/4/1997	Army	PFC
Rollins	Craig	H	8/23/1942	10/8/1995	Navy	SA
Rowe	Donald	B	4/29/1924	10/30/2002	Army Air Corps	SGT
Scott	Lester	nmn	8/22/1904	3/21/1988	Army	PFC
Strandley	Patrick	Lee	1/20/1943	2/12/2017	Army	PVT
Tidwell	Dewayne	Harold	9/29/1950	4/5/2017	Army	SP-4
Whipple	John	Stacy	10/28/1957	2/8/2017	Army	SP-4

The record for each of these men has been updated in the Data Base.

Respectfully,

Bob Patrick, Volunteer