

## Washington State Veterans Cemetery Cemetery Volunteer, Bugler

This position supports WDVA's mission of "***Serving Those Who Served***" by honoring Veterans with a final resting place and lasting tribute that commemorate their service to our nation, by serving all Veterans and their families with the utmost dignity, respect and compassion. Under the direction of the Cemetery Administrative Assistant this position assists rendering military honors for interment services and special events. This work has a direct impact on our customers' decisions as to whether they select our facility as the final resting place for family members. This position is ideal for a trained musician or musical student who wishes to honor veterans for their military service.

Jan 1, 2000 Public Law 106-65 clarified that every eligible veteran was entitled to receive military funeral honors upon the family's request. The law defines military funeral honors detail as consisting of two or more uniformed military personnel to fold and present the flag and to sound Taps for funeral honors. The law further states that a recording of Taps could be used if a bugler is not available. In the Spokane area, the military seldom has a qualified bugler. As a result the WDVA's Cemetery often uses volunteers from the community to perform Taps, and always has the need for additional volunteers.

Bugler Volunteers may be male or female. They may play a traditional bugle with no valves, or can perform the ceremony on a Trumpet, Cornet, Flugelhorn, or a 1, 2 or 3 valved bugle. **This does not include use of the digital recording in the "Ceremonial Bugle"**. The bugler can be of any age as long as they can play the 24 notes of Taps with an ease and style that respectfully renders honors to deceased Veterans, their families, and the burial detail performing the service.

Anyone wishing to volunteer must complete an application with WDVA. Your registration information will be securely maintained at the cemetery visible only to administrative staff, and will not be shared with anyone else. Applications are available at the cemetery or by calling 509-299-6280. Upon receiving your completed application, cemetery staff will contact you to learn more about your skills and availability.

Please note. All buglers will be required to sound Taps for the Cemetery Director, or another designated representative of the organization; this is part of our verification process, to ensure only capable players perform Taps. Until you pass a Taps audition, you will not receive a bugler request.

### **ACCEPTABLE ATTIRE FOR BUGLER MISSIONS (Funeral Honors)**

The first and overriding principal is that the bugler must always present a dignified, honorable, respectful and non-controversial appearance. Any attire must always be clean and well maintained. Remember that buglers are a component of the honors team, there to provide honor and tribute to others, not to showcase themselves.

Discrete civilian attire such as dark slacks or suit and white shirt with solid, dark tie is always appropriate for male buglers. Similarly, dark skirt or slacks with white blouse would be suitable for females. Appropriate accommodation may be made for extreme temperature or inclement weather.

Those who are honorably separated veterans or currently serving members of the armed forces may, in strict accordance with military regulation, wear the dress or class A uniform of their service. The individual is solely responsible for compliance with any and all pertinent regulations as to the wear of the military uniform under these circumstances.

Members of ROTC, JROTC or Veterans Service Organizations may wear the dress uniform of their unit.

### **FINANCIAL COMPENSATION OR HONORARIUMS**

*Under no circumstance shall a volunteer bugler require, request, or otherwise suggest that they be compensated for their participation in a military funeral honors service.* There will be no exceptions to this rule. If it becomes known that any member is doing this, it shall be cause for removal.

If offered an unsolicited honorarium you may accept it with gratitude and dignity.

