

ELIGIBILITY/APPROVAL LEVELS – FUNERAL FLYOVERS

Air Force*:

AFI 11-209

3.6.2.3.1. Eligibility. The following list outlines those eligible for an Air Force funeral/memorial flyover:

3.6.2.3.1.1. Active duty or currently serving Air Reserve Component (ARC) rated officers (pilots, navigators, air battle managers, observers, and flight surgeons) and Career Enlisted Aviators (1AXXX enlisted crewmembers, i.e. flight engineers, loadmasters, boom operators, etc.). This category includes those taking courses of instruction leading to an aeronautical rating. Treat ARC members the same as active duty (eligible when death occurs whether on or off duty). This includes ARC members not on unit training assembly (UTA) or military orders.

3.6.2.3.1.2. Active duty or currently serving ARC non-rated officers, non-Career Enlisted Aviators, and Operations Support Flyers (as defined in AFI 11-402, *Aviation and Parachutist Service, Aeronautical Ratings and Badges*, i.e. nurses, medical technicians, intelligence specialists, etc.) but only when death occurs in the line of duty while performing aviation duties.

3.6.2.3.1.3. Dignitaries of the Armed Forces and federal government. HQ USAF/A3O has the authority to designate Dignitaries of the Armed Forces; requests with full justification must be made through the MAJCOM staff to HQ AF/A3OO.

3.6.2.3.1.4. Active duty or retired USAF 3-star and 4-star general officers, regardless of aeronautical rating.

3.6.2.3.1.5. Active Duty or retired Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force (CMSAF).

3.6.2.3.1.6. USAF members (active duty, retired or honorably separated) who have been awarded the Medal of Honor, Air Force Cross, Army Distinguished Service Cross, or Navy Cross.

3.6.2.3.1.7. USAF aviators (active duty, retired or honorably separated) who have achieved at least one or more officially recognized aerial victories. The Air Force Historical Research Agency is the official source for aerial victories.

3.6.2.3.1.8. USAF members (active duty, retired or honorably separated) who were Prisoners of War.

b. **EXCEPTIONS:**

If the family feels the deceased should be eligible for a funeral flyover, there are exception to policy requests (*for example, a former state adjutant general isn't automatically eligible unless reached at least 3-star*).

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3.6.2.3.5. Exceptions-to-Policy. Servicing base Mortuary Affairs initiates requests for exceptions to funeral and memorial service policy and staffs the request through MAJCOMs to HQ USAF/A3OO. Requests that are handled directly by Air Force Mortuary Affairs are staffed to HQ USAF/A3OO. Exceptions-to-policy are based on appropriate use of limited resources, and are typically considered only for service marked by valor or heroism, or has significantly impacted the aviation community or aviation history. ETP requests must reach HQ USAF AF/A3OO at least 5 working days prior to the event. HQ USAF/A3OO will coordinate a package for HQ USAF/CVA decision.

Include the following in the request:

3.6.2.3.5.1. DD Form 214, **Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty**, or similar discharge documentation recording the individual's honorable discharge, rank, and decorations.

3.6.2.3.5.2. A letter from the next of kin or the person acting on their behalf requesting the flyover.

3.6.2.3.5.3. A biography of the individual's service. Include commands and significant acts or service to the Air Force and the country.

Include: Letters of endorsement from the Arkansas National Guard Adjutant General (or Deputy Adjutant General) and wing commander (from wing that will support) - send ETP request to Mortuary Affairs office asap

Army:**

DRAFT NG Pam 95-5, 8-9d

Funeral and memorial services for service members who meet the below criteria are eligible for flyovers. Flyovers in support of funeral/memorial services are operational missions and not considered a community relations activity. Requests should be made by the Person Authorized to Direct Disposition (PADD) to the Office of the AG. Following approval for such missions by the State AG, the SAAO will notify ARNG-AV of the mission details. Except for funeral services, the missing man formation shall not be performed at any public event without prior approval by the SECARMY. The State AG may approve flyovers for the following deceased Soldiers and applies to all of the services:

- (1) Killed In Action (KIA);
- (2) Recipients of the Medal of Honor (MoH) or Distinguished Service Cross;
- (3) Active and retired 3- and 4-star general officers as well as Sergeants Major of the Army;
- (4) Former aircrew member or pilot;
- (5) Missing In Action (MIA) repatriation; or
- (6) Dignitaries of the Armed Forces and Federal government listed in AR 600-25, para. 6-2.

Approval Level:

*Air Force: MAJCOM

**Army (for Army Aviation assets): Adjutant General