

1ID Memorial Script

Musician or prelude music: 10 minutes prior to start of ceremony, begin musical prelude.

2 minute warning

Narrator: Ladies and Gentlemen, the memorial for SPC xxx xxxx will begin shortly. Please silence or turn off all electronic devices and note that only the Public Affairs Office may take photos and videos during the ceremony.

Narrator: Ladies and Gentlemen, please stand for the arrival of the Family and the Official Party and remain standing for the invocation.

Chaplain: Family, friends and fellow Big Red One Soldiers, welcome to 1-xx IN Memorial Ceremony for SPC xxxxx xxxxx.

Chaplain: "According to your own tradition, please bow with me in prayer."

Dear God,

We are grateful for the opportunity
to honor our comrade in arms,
SPC xxxx xxxxx.

Bless us this day that we may,
on the behalf of a grateful nation,
fully demonstrate our thankfulness
for his service among us.

Let us, by these proceedings today,
also give thanks to the Family that prepared him for this service,
for the strength of our Army is its Soldiers,
and the strength of our Soldiers is in our Families.
I pray these things in thy holy name, Amen.

Chaplain: Please be seated

BN Commander:

...insert BN CDR remarks here...

BN CDR takes his seat. Once the BN CDR has sat down, then and only then the Company CDR stands and moves to the lectern to give his remarks.

Company CDR Remarks:

Company CDR takes his seat. Once the Company CDR has sat down, then and only then the first Soldier giving the Soldier's Tribute stands and moves to the lectern to give his remarks.

Soldier Tribute #2:

Soldier giving Tribute #1 takes his seat. Once the Soldier's Tribute #1 has sat down, then and only then the Soldier giving Soldier's Tribute #2 stands and moves to the lectern to give his remarks.

Soldier's Tribute #2: SPC xxxxx

Soldier's Tribute #2 takes his seat. Once the Soldier's Tribute #2 has sat down, then and only then the chaplain stands and moves to the lectern to give the Sacred Reading and the meditation.

Chaplain: (scripture reading & meditation)

The Gospel of John, chapter 11, verses 32 to 36

When Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him,
she fell down at his feet,
saying unto him,
Lord, if thou hadst been here,
my brother had not died.

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping,
and the Jews also weeping which came with her,
he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,

And said,
Where have ye laid him?
They said unto him,
Lord, come and see.

Jesus wept.
Then said the Jews,
Behold how he loved him!

(end of passage)

This passage tells part of the story
of a close friend of Jesus—a man named Lazarus.
While Jesus was away,
his friend Lazarus became ill and died.
Some days later,
Jesus came to visit the family and the tomb.

Those familiar with this story will know that,
moments after it says that he wept,
Jesus would raise Lazarus from the dead.
And yet he wept.
Even knowing that he would see his friend again,
he wept.

Why did he weep?

He wept because his dear friend was dead.

He wept because,

as it says,

“he loved him!”

And if he can weep,

why not us?

If he can grieve the death of his friend,

why can't we?

We each grieve for xxxx in our own way.

It might come in tears,

in anger,

or in hollowness.

It might come in funny memories.

It may come in regrets.

Those xxxxx's life touched have lost something—

someone—

who had an impact on who they are?

Brothers and sisters in arms,

and others gathered here today,

know this:

it is ok to weep.

It is ok to grieve.

We lost a brother—

for some a brother in blood,
for many others, a brother in our military family.
Like Jesus,
who loved Lazarus so much
that he mourned for his loss
even knowing he would raise him from the dead,
we too can grieve.
May God bless us with the strength and courage
to love and to remember our brother,
xxxxxx.

(Special music follows)

Mrs. xxxxx performs the special music.

Chaplain: "Please stand and remain standing for a moment of silence, the benediction and the rendering of Military Honors."

Chaplain: "Please bow with me for a moment of silence"

Chaplain: **Offers the moment of silence (15 SEC).**

Chaplain: **Gives benediction.**

Dear God,

Bless us as we grieve.

To us xxxx xxxx may have been a friend,
a colleague,
a brother,
or a son.

Among all these things, God,

he was a Soldier.

Bless us with thy presence as we grieve.

Be with us as we feel his absence from our ranks.

Comfort us,

and when the time is right, dear God,

help us to find peace.

Amen.

1SG: “SOUND OFF FOR ROLL CALL”

1SG: (1st Soldier in Unit) **“SPC xxxxx”**

1st Soldier in Unit: Replies with **“Here 1SG”** **NOTE: Regardless of actual rank, the NCO acting as 1SG is addressed as “1SG”*

1SG: (2nd Soldier in Unit) **“CPL xxxxx”**

2nd Soldier in Unit: Replies with **“Here 1SG”**

1SG: (3rd Soldier in Unit) **“SPC xxxxx”**

3rd Soldier in Unit: Replies with **“Here 1SG”**

1SG: (Fallen Soldier) **“SPC xxxxx”**

1SG: (Fallen Soldier) **“SPC xxxxx xxxxx”**

1SG: Speaking slower this time (Fallen Soldier) **“SPC xxxxx xxxx xxxxx”**

Honor Guard (HG): conducts the Firing of Volleys

1ID Bugler: Plays Taps.

Narrator: Ladies and Gentlemen, this concludes our ceremony. Thank you for attending. At this time, please be seated and remain in place until the Official Party, the Family and the command have paid a final tribute and exited. After the departure of the Family and key leaders, you may exit quietly using the rear of the chapel. Those unit personnel and others wishing to render honors, please remain seated until the ushers direct your row forward.