

RANK FIRST LAST -

Ladies and gentlemen,
I am Chaplain _____,
and it is my honor to minister to your family
as we lay to rest your beloved, our comrade in arms,

RANK FIRST LAST

WELCOME TO ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY,
where for over 150 years our Nation has honored
her fallen warriors and patriots.

These hallowed grounds are a lasting memorial
to the men and women who have faithfully served our nation.
There are over 400,000 such Americans buried here.
As you look out upon the rows of headstones,
each stone a brick in the foundation of freedom
upon which we stand today,
I encourage you to remember this:
No place in Arlington National Cemetery can be purchased;
each must be earned through honorable service.

LET US PRAY:

Father in Heaven, by the death, burial, and resurrection of your
Son, Jesus Christ, death is overcome and the graves of your saints
are sanctified. Keep our *brother* **FIRST** who we now commit to
rest, in the company of all your saints and, at the last, raise *him* up
to share with all your faithful people the endless joy and peace
won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you, now and forever. Amen.

Listen to these words of comfort God has given us
in the **23RD PSALM**

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me
beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I
will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they
comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine
enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

We have come to this hallowed place because death has struck
and taken someone we love. And yet in the midst of our sorrow
we can remember the hope that we have in Christ.

FIRST left a praiseworthy and memorable legacy. [*short tribute to
deceased*] . . .

And now a table is prepared for *him*. *He* will know the beautiful
goodness and mercy within the heavenly home of our Lord.

The reality of the Resurrection of Christ overwhelms our grief with hope. He has taken upon Himself all our infirmities, pains, and the injustices we have suffered, and has “rise[n] from the dead, with healing in his wings.” He can make us whole. He “shall wipe away all tears from [our] eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.” **FIRST** can be “made perfect through Jesus, who wrought out this perfect atonement.” “Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Let us now rely on that joy and promise, and **COMMIT FIRST** to rest:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our *brother*, **FIRST LAST**, and we commit *his body* to *the ground* – earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless *him* and keep *him*. The Lord make his face shine on *him* and be gracious to *him*. The Lord look upon *him* with favor and give *him* peace. Amen.

Now, as our Savior has taught us, we pray:

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Almighty God, Father of Mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

For *his* honorable service in the United States Army to include service in *[list combat locations]*, **RANK LAST** received military awards and decorations to include

[list significant awards; e.g., . . .]

The Silver Star, the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal. *[etc. . . .]*

[If awarded the Purple Heart]

“Let it be known . . . that **RANK FIRST LAST** who is a member of the **Military Order of the Purple Heart**, has given of *his* blood in the defense of *his* homeland and shall forever be revered by *his* fellow countrymen.” While many have served our Nation admirably, *he* shed *his* blood for the freedoms we hold dear today.

For our comrade in arms, **RANK FIRST LAST**, our Nation bestows military honors.

In life *he* honored the flag; now the flag will honor *him*.

[Funeral detail renders military honors]