



*Readjustment Counseling Service...*

**Celebrating 30 Years in Service to our Nations Veterans**

*...Keeping the Promise*

**Vet  
Center**

# **Bereavement Program Overview**

**Readjustment Counseling Services  
August 28, 2014**





## **Readjustment Counseling Services –aka The Vet Center**

- **Program started in 1979 to assist Vietnam Veterans in readjusting to civilian life and to utilize VA services**
  - **Specialize in treatment of combat-related issues, military sexual trauma, and marital and family therapy**
  - **Staffed by veterans (75%)**
  - **300 Vet Centers across the nation**
  - **NC Vet Centers (Raleigh, Charlotte, Fayetteville, Greenville, Jacksonville and Greensboro)**
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**On August 5, 2003, the VA Secretary authorized Vet Centers to furnish bereavement counseling services to surviving parents, spouses, children, and siblings of Service Members who have fallen while on active duty, to include federally activated Reserve and National Guard personnel.**





**Last Fiscal Year (from 01 October 2012 – 30 September 2013)  
RCS handled 890 bereavement cases. These cases came to  
the Vet Centers from numerous sources:**

- Casualty Assistance Officer (or similar) – 97 (10.9%)
- Family Members – 40 (4.5%)
- Other Government Agencies – 29 (3.3%)
- Self Referrals – 190 (21.3%)
- Survivor Outreach Services – 51 (5.7%)
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors – 483 (54.3%)

**Of the 890 cases, there were 754 individual deceased Service Members listed (there were 136 cases in which a separate referral was opened for family members in different regions.)**

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## **Raleigh Vet Center**

- **41 bereavement cases since 2003**
  - **TAPS care group 2006-2012 (bereavement support group led by Vet Center staff and TAPS facilitator)**
  - **23 participants**
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## **Of those 754 cases causes of death included:**

- Accidents: 31 (4.1%)
  - Afghanistan – Hostile: 139 (18.4%)
  - Afghanistan – Non-hostile: 18 (2.4%)
  - Aviation Related Accidents: 18 (2.4%)
  - Homicide: 33 (4.4%)
  - Illness: 96 (12.7%)
  - Iraq – Hostile: 61 (8%)
  - Iraq – Non-hostile: 7 (.9%)
  - Motor Vehicle Accidents: 72 (9.5%)
  - MVA – Involving Motorcycles: 43 (5.7%)
  - Natural Disaster: 1 (.1%)
  - Suicide: 177 (23.5%)
  - Training Related Accidents: 14 (1.9%)
  - COD Unknown or Under Investigation at time of Referral: 44 (6%)
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## POLICY AND PROCEDURE HIGHLIGHTS

### ✓ ELIGIBILITY

- **The Service Member dies on Active Duty.**
    - “Active Duty” is not restricted to theaters of combat such as Iraq and Afghanistan.
    - “Active Duty” death is inclusive of all members of the Armed Forces who die in the line of duty or while on active duty in any location under any circumstances.
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## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **✓ ELIGIBILITY**

- **If the Service Member dies on Active Duty, eligibility for all family members is automatic and permanent with no session limit, cost, enrollment requirement, or location restrictions.**
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## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **✓ PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY**

- **The Report of Casualty Form DD-1300 (as seen on the next slide) is needed to confirm eligibility. Please ensure the family member has this document for their first appointment OR the CAO/referral source may send it to the Bereavement Department or Vet Center ahead of time.**
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- **DD-1300 Report of Casualty:**  
This is the official one-page Department of Defense (DoD) document generated when a member of the Armed Forces dies while serving on Active Duty. The DD-1300:
  - contains information about the deceased including the full name, Social Security Number (SSN), date of death, and location of death.
  - is typically provided to the CAO or to the family member directly.

<b>REPORT OF CASUALTY</b>		DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND FORT KNOX KY 40122		REPORT CONTROL SYMBOL DD-P&R(AR)1664
1. REPORT TYPE Initial			2. DATE PREPARED 11 Aug 2011	
3. SERVICE IDENTIFICATION				
a. NAME (Last, First, Middle and Suffix) [REDACTED]		b. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]	c. RANK CW2	d. PAY GRADE W-2
e. OCCUPATIONAL CODE/RATING 154C0				
f. COMPONENT Reserve	g. BRANCH USA	h. ORGANIZATION Company B, 7th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, New Century, KS		
4. CASUALTY INFORMATION				
a. TYPE Hostile	b. STATUS Deceased	c. CATEGORY Killed In Action	d. DATE OF CASUALTY 06 Aug 2011	e. PLACE OF CASUALTY COP Sayed Abad, Afghanistan
f. CIRCUMSTANCES Determination Pending.				
g. DUTY STATUS Active: Operational Support; 17 March 2011 - 19 April 2012				h. BODY RECOVERED Yes
5. BACKGROUND INFORMATION				
a. DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED]	b. PLACE OF BIRTH Hays, KS		c. COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP United States	
d. RACE White				
e. ETHNICITY None				f. SEX Male
g. RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE Catholic Churches				
6. ACTIVE DUTY INFORMATION				
a. PLACE OF ENTRY Hays, KS	b. DATE OF ENTRY 16 Dec 1996	c. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY Hays, KS		
7. INTERESTED PERSONS/REMARKS (Name, Address, and Relationship) (Continue on separate sheet, if necessary)				
WAR ON TERRORISM / OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM, AFGHANISTAN				
[REDACTED] Kansas City, MO [REDACTED] (Wife), (1, 2, 3, SGLI 100%)				
**** End of Interested Persons ****				
FOOTNOTES: 1 Primary next-of-kin. 2 Beneficiary(ies) for death gratuity - as designated on record of emergency data. 3 Beneficiary for unpaid pay and allowances - as designated on record of emergency data.				
8. REPORTING INFORMATION				b. DATE RECEIVED 06 Aug 2011
a. COMMAND AGENCY CENTCOM, ARCENT, APO AE 09366				
9. DISTRIBUTION KUW LEA RIL		10. SIGNATURE ELEMENT BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY: <i>[Signature]</i> NOTE: This form may be used to facilitate the cashing of bonds, the payment of commercial insurance, or in the settlement of any other claim in which proof of death is required.		
DD FORM 1300, FEB 2011		PREVIOUS EDITION MAY BE USED		



## QUESTIONS?

**National Bereavement Number (Public)**

**720-874-1031**

**National Bereavement E-mail (Public)**

**[VetCenter.Bereavement@va.gov](mailto:VetCenter.Bereavement@va.gov)**

**Bereavement Program Case Manager**

**[Andrew.Carraway@va.gov](mailto:Andrew.Carraway@va.gov)**

