Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery

Free and Open to the Public!

View the virtual Patriot Plaza tour experience!
Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery

Patriot Plaza, a 2,800-seat ceremonial amphitheater at Sarasota National Cemetery in Florida, features commissioned art that honors veterans, inspires patriotism, and embraces freedom. The space is a place of peace and reflection and exists for our community to honor veterans through ceremonies and events for generations to come. Sarasota National Cemetery, like all 151 national cemeteries, is a place where all active duty or honorably discharged veterans can be buried. Some spouses and dependent children of eligible veterans can also be buried there.

Detailed eligibility requirements can be found at www.cem.va.gov.

What is a Veteran?

A person who has served in active military, naval, or air service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable.

What is Veterans Day all about...

The United States and other countries celebrate November 11th as Armistice Day to commemorate the ending of World War I on November 11, 1918.

Veterans Day is intended to honor and thank all military personnel who served the United States, particularly living veterans. It is marked by parades and church services and in many places the American flag is hung at half mast. A period of silence lasting 2 minutes may be held at 11am.

In 1918, fighting in WWI ceased at the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month

The Marine Corps mascot is an English Bulldog.

Alexander Hamilton is known as the “Father of the U.S. Coast Guard”.

DID YOU KNOW?

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What is the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day?

Memorial Day honors American service members who died in service to our country, while Veterans Day honors all living American veterans from all wars or peacetime and who have served honorably.

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday in May.

Veterans Day is observed on November 11th.

If you go for a walk through the cemetery look at the headstones or markers. You will find a lot of information there. Here are examples of what you might find on each one:

- An emblem of faith
- Full name
- Highest rank attained
- Branch of the service
- Certain awards known as Medals of Valor
- Date of birth and date of death
- Other information like their home state, a special unit or special credentials
There are five Branches of the armed forces of the United States:

- Army
- Marine Corps
- Navy
- Air Force
- Coast Guard

When you visit Patriot Plaza see if you can find where the seals are displayed.
Hint: They will all be found together in this same order.

Take a picture of yourself in front of the seals at Patriot Plaza and send the photo to:
admin@thepattersonfoundation.org

**COLOR the seals!**

**Army Information**

Founding Date: June 14th, 1775

Army Song: “The Army Goes Rolling Along”

Members of the United States Army are called Soldiers.
Marine Corps Information

Founding Date: November 10th, 1775

USMC Song: “The Marines’ Hymn” (This is the oldest official song of the United States Armed Forces.)

Members of the United States Marine Corps are called Marines.

Navy Information

Founding Date: October 13th, 1775

Navy Song: “Anchors Aweigh”

Members of the United States Navy are called Sailors.
Air Force Information
Founding Date: September 18th, 1947

Air Force Song: “The U.S. Air Force Song” (begins with “Off we go into the wild blue yonder.”)

Members of the United States Air Force are called Airmen.

Coast Guard Information
Founding Date: August 4th, 1790

Coast Guard Song: “Semper Paratus” (This is also their motto and it means Always Ready)

Member of the United States Coast Guard are called Coast Guardsmen.
Patriot Plaza
Veteran’s Word Search

First find all the words in the list. Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other. Once you find all the words, copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.

allegiance  
commitment  
defense  
fortitude  
heroism  
liberty  
patriotism  
responsible  
bravery  
country  
discipline  
grateful  
honesty  
loyalty  
pledge  
strength  
camaraderie  
dedication  
duty  
hardship  
honor  
order  
respect  
valor

Quote by Winston Churchill

These words can all be found at Patriot Plaza on the walkways and artwork. How many can you find? Look up the meaning of words that are new to you.
Office hours: Monday thru Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm
Closed federal holidays.

Visitation Hours: Open daily from sunrise to sunset

- Sarasota National Cemetery is located at 9810 State Road 72 in Sarasota
- Admission is free
- Please no pets or picnics
- Burials occur on weekdays so please be respectful of those attending services.

To learn more about Patriot Plaza at Sarasota National Cemetery, visit:
thepattersonfoundation.org/patriot-plaza

Twitter: #PatriotPlaza
#ForAllAges

Veterans Day
Memorial Mass with Bishop Frank J. Dewane
at Sarasota National Cemetery
9810 State Road 72/Clark Road
Friday, November 11, 2022
3:00pm

For more information contact
Gail Ardy at The Diocese of Venice
941-484-9543 or ardy@dioceseofvenice.org