**Ulster County Veterans Cemetery**

at

New Paltz Rural Cemetery (NPRC)

**Eligibility & Payment**

A veteran and his spouse who reside in Ulster County are eligible for burial in Ulster County Veterans Cemetery (UCVC), subject to the following criteria. Spouse eligibility is contingent on the veteran’s eligibility/burial in UCVC. Eligible veteran/spouse burial costs in UCVC (not funeral costs) are paid by Ulster County.

1. Residency:
	1. An Ulster County residence address on the decedent’s death certificate establishes residency.
	2. If the address on the death certificate is not in Ulster County, and residency is being claimed by the burial informant, supporting documentation of Ulster County residency must be provided to Ulster County Veteran Services Agency (UCVSA), which will review and determine if an exception to 1(a) above is warranted.
	3. If the decedent is a non-resident of Ulster County, but the burial informant desires a UCVC burial based on compassionate factors (such as long previous Ulster County residency, etc.) the burial informant must make written request to UCVSA for determination if exception to 1(a) above is warranted. Should an exception be granted for a non-resident burial, the burial informant shall pay in advance to NPRC the full cost of such burial and pay in advance for the prescribed bronze grave marker(s).
	4. Cemetery burial expenses for decedents as in 1(a) above will be at no cost to veteran/informant. These covered expenses are limited to costs for plot, interment and grave foundation. All other expenses, such as funeral home services, casket, etc., are the responsibility of the veteran/informant.
2. Military Service:
	1. Only a veteran (as defined herein) and his spouse are eligible for burial in UCVC.
	2. The veteran’s document of discharge, such as a DD-214 or equivalent certificate is required.
	3. The veteran’s character of military service must be no less than “General.”
	4. The veteran must meet the following military service criteria:
		1. Have full-time active duty service, exclusive of basic training.
		2. If discharged after 1979, at least 24 months of full time active service.
		3. If Reserve Component or National Guard, have active duty service under Federal Title 10 and serve the full term of orders.
	5. An exception to 2(d) above for veterans of the Reserve Component, National Guard and veterans who do not meet the minimum service requirements as in 2(d)ii may be granted if written request is made to and approved by UCVSA. Upon approval of such exception, the burial informant shall pay in advance to the Cemetery operator the full cost of such burial, including but not limited to costs for plot, interment and marker base. Informant shall also pay in advance for the prescribed flat bronze grave marker.
3. Grave Markers:
	1. 24”x12” flat bronze grave markers are the only authorized markers in UCVC.
	2. For veterans as in 2(d) above, such markers are provided by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) at no charge, and are typically ordered by the attending funeral service (VA Form 40-1330).
	3. If the decedent is not eligible for a VA-provided Flat Bronze marker, a compliant flat bronze marker must be ordered and paid for in advance by the informant.
	4. If a spouse pre-deceases the veteran and her cremains are interred in the veteran’s future UCVC burial plot, the veteran may choose to avoid the expense of a spouse marker and include the spouse’s name on his own VA-provided bronze marker, when he is interred himself. Otherwise, a bronze marker must be purchased by the informant for the spouse’s plot.
4. Costs (The following general burial cost information is provided for convenience. Actual costs may vary due to individual circumstances or price changes):
	1. Cemetery:
		1. Plot: $800
		2. Interment: $850 (full body); $450 (cremains)
		3. Marker base: $175
	2. Bronze grave marker:
		1. 24”x12” Flat Bronze, identical to VA-provided veteran Flat Bronze markers.
		2. Available through monument merchants.
		3. A local source: K.L. Keyser Memorials; 336 Albany Ave, Kingston, NY 12401; (845) 331-4800.
		4. Approximate cost: $995