



**Fort Churchill Chapter
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**

Lynda Freeman

DAR Service For Veterans Committee

The Nevada State Society NSDAR - Fort Churchill Chapter

webmaster@paragonpubs.com

www.darfortchurchill.com

January 24 2013

UNATTENDED VETERANS' SERVICE AT THE NNVMC IN FERNLEY NEVADA

Some years ago, the NNVMC [Northern Nevada Veteran Memorial Cemetery] started receiving ashes of Veterans via UPS, FED-EX, and local mortuaries without any further arrangements accompanying them. The cemetery was placing them to rest, ordering a headstone and that was it. The NNVC [Northern Nevada Veterans Coalition] decided to take on the responsibility of laying them to rest with the honors they deserve. Those in attendance are their family, at least for the day, and are honored to be there. There are a lot of Veterans who are forgotten by family, who have no family or some whose family just cannot get here.



On January 24 2013, Military Honors were performed in honor of those veterans to be interred who have no one in attendance for their service. It is referred to as the Unattended Veteran's Service. It was the first time I have had the honor to attend this ceremony, it will not be my last ... it changed me.

The Honor Guard presents the Flags. The flags presented are for each branch of the service being honored that day. The Rifle Team assembles. The Chaplain opens the ceremony, offers a prayer, reads the names and branches of Service for each of the Honored Veterans, then closes with a prayer.

A beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace" was sung.

The Chaplain asks all the Veterans to stand during the firing of the Volley and to remain standing through the playing of TAPS. The Honor Guard is brought to attention and dispatched to "FIRE THE VOLLEY OF THREE". TAPS is played. The Rifle team retires, and then the Flag Presentation Team executes a flag presentation while the Chaplain reads the Symbols for the Folds of the Flag. The flag was presented to someone in attendance who was previously asked to receive the flag in place of the missing family.

Unattended Veterans' Service at the NNVMC Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 14 Veterans Way, Fernley, NV 89408. This service is held on the 4th Thursday of the month at 3:00 PM. The NNVC Northern Nevada Veterans Coalition conducts this service in conjunction with the NNVMC Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

"To be killed is not the worst that can happen. To be lost is not the worst that can happen. To be forgotten is the worst"
Pierre Claysens 1909-2003