

## Memorial Service at VFW Post Meeting

When my VFW Post has a death of a comrade, I will hold a brief memorial service for that comrade at the next post meeting. The short memorial service takes place at the end of the meeting following the “Good of the Order.” Here is an example of the format.

- Good of the Order: Following the Good of the Order, Commander will say, “Chaplain, lead us in a memorial service for our recently deceased comrade.”
- Memorial Service and Draping of Charter for Fred Ruppenthal

### Reading of Obituaries

Freddie (Fred) Eugene Ruppenthal (Lt. Col, Retired), age 88, passed away peacefully in Tucson, AZ, on April 1, 2023. A 1952 graduate of the former Myerstown High School, Fred married his high school sweetheart, Shirley (Ranaldi) Ruppenthal on October 17, 1955. On that same day, Fred was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force and received his Pilot Wings. Fred had a long career in the Air Force. He flew KC-97 refueling planes, served active duty in the Vietnam War, and in the 1970s served as a U.S. Liaison in Seoul, South Korea. Fred was also a test engineer for the development of the first U.S. military drones. Upon retiring from the Air Force, he moved back to Myerstown to spend time with his extended family. Fred was a lifetime member of the American Legion and was active in the Eastern Lebanon County Lions Clubs and the VFW. Fred, along with his wife Shirley, will be buried at the Indiantown Gap National Cemetery in Annville, PA; the date to be determined.

If you are able, please rise.

- Chaplain offers a short prayer on behalf of deceased followed by the Draping of Charter Ceremony and the Playing of Taps

Commander: There being no further business, we will have our closing ceremony

Chaplain, offer our closing prayer. Uncover. Following prayer, Chaplain Closes Bible

Commander: Recover. Attention. Face the Colors, Present Arms. Order Arms.

Comrades I now declare this business session of VFW Post \_\_\_\_\_ closed. Our next regular meeting will be \_\_\_\_\_.