

# Steps to Take When an Annuitant Dies

## ELIGIBILITY FOR SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN ANNUITY PAY ENDS WITH THE DEATH OF THE ANNUITANT (BENEFICIARY)

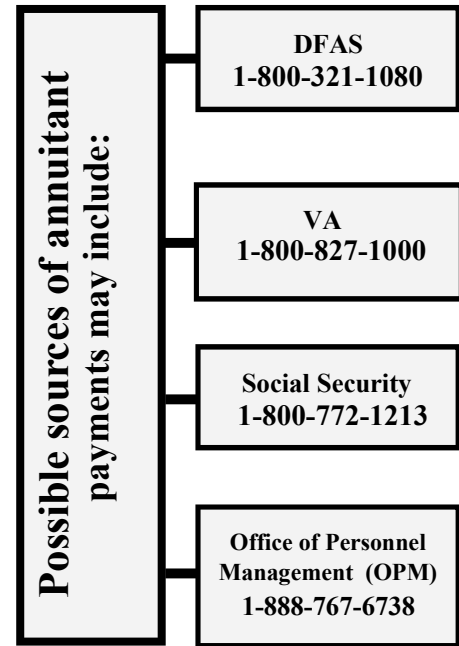
Prompt reporting of a deceased military annuitant’s death can help avoid delay and prevent possible financial hardship for the surviving family members or executors, who will be required to return any unearned payments of the decedent’s annuity pay if payment is erroneously received.

\*\*\*While the VA does not provide burial benefits for annuitants, the annuitant may be eligible for burial in a military cemetery.

Follow these steps to report the death of an annuitant:

1. Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 to report the death and stop annuity pay.
2. Mail or fax a copy of the annuitant’s death certificate to:
 

**DFAS - U.S. Military Annuitant Pay**  
**8899 E. 56th Street**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46249-1300**  
**Fax: 1-800-982-8459**
3. Inform any financial institutions receiving payments about the death of the annuitant. (Provide a copy of the death certificate when it becomes available).
4. If applicable, contact the following agencies/departments immediately to report the death:
  - **Social Security Administration:**  
1-800-772-1213 [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
  - **Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System:**  
1-800-538-9552
  - **Department of Veterans Affairs:**  
1-800-827-1000 (annuitants in receipt of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation)  
[www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)



If you believe you are the victim of an error or injustice which affects your military record, you may apply for a Correction of Military Records by completing and submitting a DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record. Examples of corrections include: upgraded discharge, promotions, retired pay, household goods, pay date change, bonus, and MGIB programs. DFAS pays military members when the Board for Corrections of Naval Records (BCNR) rule in their favor. If you received a decision from the BCNR and you do not agree with it, write the Board and explain your reasoning. Reference the appropriate address on page 2 of the DD Form 149. If you would like to check the status of your request contact the BCNR directly at (703) 604 - 6884 (Navy/Marine Corps). If you believe DFAS paid you incorrectly for your Correction of Record, provide documentation with a handwritten signature explaining why you are protesting the amount to:

**DFAS-IN**  
 Dept. 3330, Attn: COR/Claims  
 8899 East 56th Street  
 Indianapolis, IN 46249-3300  
 DFAS Inquiry Line: (317) 212-6167  
 (Hours: 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, EST)