COMPLETED MISSION REPORT

BTG2 William (Bill) Eugene White (87), US Navy Castle Rock, WA.

Saturday 20 November 2021,

14 Patriots gathered to Honor our Hero William Eugene White (87) US Navy at Hubbard-Whittle Cemetery in Castle Rock, WA as he was presented with his much-deserved Military Honors. William enlisted in the United States Navy on 20 Jan, 1955 and was trained as a boiler Operator. William was assigned to the USS Knapp (DD-653). William completed 2 years of Honorable and Faithful active service; 11 months & 7 days were spent on Sea Service Duty. William was Honorably discharged on 19 Jan, 1957. William was awarded the Good Conduct Medal. We Staged at the Freeway Shell in Castle Rock, WA where 14 Patriots once again came together to form The Patriot Guard Mission. We signed in, imparted a bit of ourselves into the coin that was passed from hand to hand as we gathered to Honor a Hero on this day. We removed our covers and began with a prayer. We then recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Road Captain gave a briefing on our Hero along with instructions on the mission plan. Our Rolling Honor Guard Escort Captain selected & briefed his team and then they departed for the Hubbard Funeral Home Chapel to Escort Our Hero and his family out to the Cemetery. The Road Captain lead the rest of the Patriots out of the parking lot on our two & four wheeled transportation devices & our trusted support vehicles as Tail Gunners. We arrived at the cemetery and quickly began setting up & staking flags. The Road Captain met with the US Navy Honor Guard and Chaplain onsite to collaborate our cues and movements. Flags were taken & unfurled by each Patriot. Our American Flag & US Navy Service Flag were positioned ready to receive our Hero. The Rifle team was positioned a safe distance away and stood ready for their cue to fire. At this time the Rolling Honor Guard Escort team could be heard thundering in from the distance. As they came into view on this chilly wet morning, our hearts raced knowing that our Hero was joining us at his final resting place we had all worked to prepare for him. As planned the team circled through the cemetery with our Hero and Family close behind and stopped with our Hero in perfect position for his Honorable transfer to the gravesite. The family provided the Pallbearers and with all Patriots at Attention our Hero was transferred. Our American Flag & Navy Service Flag moved to a position of prominence in front of the family. Once in position, The Chaplain said a prayer and our Hero’s Son said a few words. It was now time for Military Honors to commence, the US Navy team lifted and canted the burial flag as all patriots stood at full salute. The Rifle team sent prayers aloft in a flawless Volley of Three. Our Bugler followed with the playing of TAPS right on cue. The Flag was then meticulously folded and presented to the Son of our Hero. The Rifle Team Captain presented the Brass from the Volley of Three & our Road Captain presented our Commemorative coin to the Family. After a short eulogy and prayer our Road Captain called the Patriots to attention & retired the colors. Our Flags led the way as we exited the field in a double column back to our support vehicle to stow the gear. We ended the mission with handshakes, hugs and a toast to our Hero, William Eugene White. We then headed out in different directions to rejoin our families. I am proud of today’s mission and proud of the Patriots that stood for this Hero. Everyone did an outstanding job today. What we do Matters, and it is important that we do it right. We gathered as Patriots all, we stood guard for the Hero and his family as the PATRIOT GUARD, united not in name, but in our love of our Veterans, through Actions and Honor. May we never forget our purpose in this endeavor of Honor, Respect and love of our Fallen Heroes and their families. The love and camaraderie of all Patriots gathered this day was beautiful to see as always. 14 Patriots departed today until we are called upon to stand yet again and form the Patriot Guard. This mission was conducted to the highest standards of the American Legion PATRIOT GUARD Mission. It was a mission completed to the highest standards of our stated mission, HONORING OUR NATIONS HEROES. May GOD bless our service members and our Patriot Family, PATRIOTS ALL that we may continue to STAND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE AND CONTINUE TO STAND FOR OUR SAFETY AND FREEDOM. My Personal Thank You to each Patriot who attended this Mission today, Your Selflessness & Dedication is an inspiration to me and a Blessing to those around you.