

■ SURVIVOR BENEFITS: FACT OR FICTION

1. An immediate gratuity will be paid to my survivors, usually within 36 hours.
2. SGLI will be paid to my spouse or next-of-kin immediately upon confirmation of my death.
3. Any unused leave or arrears in pay is lost at the time of my death.
4. My spouse and any children will receive monthly compensation from the government.
5. Social Security provides survivors benefits to both my spouse and/or my children.
6. Paying for my funeral is the responsibility of my family. The government does not provide any financial assistance in this area.
7. My family must vacate housing or will lose BAH within 180 days of my death.
8. My family will be provided a no-cost final move.
9. The government will provide a flag, headstone, and a burial spot in a national cemetery.
10. My survivors are guaranteed acceptance at any college which receives federal funds.
11. My family will be provided transportation to and from my funeral.
12. My children will receive free childcare at on base Child Development Centers while my spouse attends college courses.
13. My dependents will lose their commissary and exchange privileges at the end of one year.
14. VA provides a survivors' and dependents' education assistance program that provides monthly payments for college enrollment.
15. The Survivors Benefit Program will pay my spouse or children a portion of my monthly retirement pay.
16. A surviving spouse gets both SBP and DIC.
17. Retirees' survivors get the same survivor benefits as active duty survivors.
18. A surviving spouse continues to receive all survivor benefits, even upon remarriage.

www.ssa.gov (Social Security Administration)

www.defenselink.mil (OSD – Military Compensation)

www.insurance.va.gov (Veteran's Affairs Home Page)