

**A Survivor Checklist Pamphlet** <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/survivor-checklist-detail/>

**MOAA Surviving Spouse Corner** <https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-corner/>

**Surviving Spouse Resources and Links** <https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-resources/>

**MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter (MSSVC-02)** meets monthly the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Membership is limited to Surviving Spouses or Surviving Spouse Liaisons. Contact Pat Green, Membership Chair at deg06@aol.com or email for membership application <https://www.moaa.org/uploadedfiles/content/personas/family/spouses1/2019-virtual-chapter-letter-and-application.pdf>

**\*\*Retired Dependent** status formally changes to **Surviving Spouse** Military ID card must be changed as soon as possible with permanent military ID at age 65. Call Military One Source at 800-342-9647 or ID card office locator and appointments <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/locator>  
<https://www.moaa.org/content/benefits-and-discounts/pay-and-benefits/military-benefits/id-cards/>

Additional Essential Documents for a surviving spouse:

1. **USER NAMES and PASSWORDS** Computer, streaming TV channels, home safe, etc.
2. **KEYS to “everything.”** Keys should be marked for the keyhole they fit. Combinations to digital locks...such as car door.
3. **Retiree’s DEATH CERTIFICATE** (10-15 copies) ...MUST STATE service connection
  - a. Cause of death can be changed, but very difficult to do.
4. **Retirement papers DD214** (if not available, call National Personnel Records Center at 1-314-801-0800) or Form 1300 Active-Duty death certificate.
5. **Marriage license/certificate** SBP may go to former spouse, if one.
6. **Divorce papers for prior spouse...**if one DIC is paid ONLY to current spouse
7. **Retired Pay Statements** - will provide Survivor’s name and percentage of SBP. SBP is automatic. If it is declined, the survivor must sign in agreement. Print off SBP application, <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/survivors/ApplySBP/> review with spouse now.
8. **VA annual letter of disability award.** Keep claims documents...all information. Laws and programs change...don’t know what you will need. Print off DIC application, <https://www.va.gov/disability/dependency-indemnity-compensation/> Review. If death is not service connected, but 100% Total and Permanent for 10 or more years, surviving spouse is eligible for VA benefits
9. Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles folder for **DV license plates** inherited by surviving spouse.

10. 100 % Perm and Total SC Virginia **property tax exemption** claims (2011). KIA and LOD active duty property tax exemptions (2014 and 2022) Facebook Group: Virginia Military Widows: Property Tax Waiver. 77 Members.
11. Insurance named beneficiary...
12. **Pre-Need Burial application** <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/pre-need-eligibility/> VA National Cemeteries... wait time for burials.
13. **CHANGE of ADDRESSES** to TRICARE at <https://tricare.mil/LifeEvents/OLE> , DEERS at <https://www.tricare.mil/deers>, DFAS at [www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death/](http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/Retiree-death/), and VA at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)...DoD computer programs do not talk to each other.
14. **Military ID card** will need to be changed. From dependent to survivor...permanent after age 65 for survivor.
15. **Bank** may require a closing of joint account...new account created.
16. **Provide sufficient funds (bank account without survivorship) to pay burial or estate expenses.**

## **PRIVATE Informational FACEBOOK Groups for Surviving Spouses** (administered by MOAA surviving spouse members.)

**“MOAA SURVIVING SPOUSES AND FRIENDS”** 839 members

**“Military Widows: SBP-DIC Offset”** 2600 Members  
Successful advocacy repealed the SBP-DIC offset in 2019

**“Love Lives On Act of 2023”** 718 Members

**“DIC Surviving Spouses/DIC Increase Advocacy”** 919 Members

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