

# HONORABLE LEGACY

We Miss, We Remember, We Mourn, We Honor...



NOV/DEC 2022

A YEAR OF HONOR

## WORKING TOGETHER TURNING EMPATHY *into* ACTION

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# FOUNDER'S CORNER

## A Reflection on Gratitude

As I reflect on the past year, the emotion it draws is gratitude.

I founded Honorable Legacy to give people an opportunity to turn the common refrain when death happens, "let me know if you need anything," into action and to empower the bereaved with the resources to Honor their dead and support their next living phase.

Many bereaved persons would privately lament the lack of Emotional, Physical, and Grief support; they were expected to move on, stop talking, be strong and tuck their pain away, yet we did not equip them with the right tools. It is time to support each other in humanity's greatest unifying factor **death**.

I am most grateful to Donna, a woman who, in rapid succession, lost her husband and son but acknowledged her loss and sought the tools to hold on to her life. One afternoon, during her grief check, I asked her how she was *really* doing. Her answer, "it is time to get up from my grief so that I do not die with them."

This story reminds us that we can empower the bereaved toward their next living phase with proper support.

Donna is currently doing well and leading other families through loss and grief. Indeed, once people feel supported in the irreversible state of death and the grief it leaves behind, we develop care and trust in humanity.

Thank you to those who offered their talents and financial resources to ensure that each life is Honored and that no one is left to grieve alone.

Thank you for turning your empathy into action.

We invite you to make 2023 the year of Death Awareness by pledging to Honor the dead and support the bereaved.

Together we can bring Honor back to death.

*S.J. Nechama*



# Honoring Together at Honorable Legacy



Learn how Honorable Legacy is helping turn your empathy for the bereaved into action

**Founded in 2019, Honorable Legacy began as a grassroots effort to support the bereaved.**

After becoming incorporated as a 501c3 non-profit organization in 2021, we have expanded our reach to include: Cemetery restoration and beautification, activating living legacies, grief support, gold-star family support, and a bereaved children's Christmas Fund.

**It is not enough to empathize; we must also give the bereaved emotional, physical, and mental support.**  
-S. J. Nechama

With an empathetic, strong, and well-earned reputation to uphold, Honorable Legacy works to facilitate human well-being in the face of bereavement. We do this through Death education and grief support so that no one is left to grieve unloved.

Our CEO S. J. Nechama says, "It is not enough to empathize; we must also give the bereaved emotional, physical, and mental support."

When asked why she founded Honorable Legacy, she affirmed, "It was critical to create an organization to promote mental well-being in the face of death. Humanity's greatest unifying factor is death, yet our services in this industry are lacking. Death is real, and lives are being altered daily by unresolved grief and fear."

Nechama admits that sustaining and maintaining the programs while innovating new ways to Honor the dead and support the bereaved is challenging. However, the community has rallied together to offer financial and moral support.

We continue to serve people at the most sensitive time in their lives. Death is life-altering, so we stand in the gaps to help the bereaved transition into their next living phase.

## Our Core Programs

### 1. Honor the Dead

Together we can bring back Honor to death.

This process begins by Honoring the dead: Acknowledging mortality, showing empathy, paying tribute, and using your Gifts to Honor.

### 2. Activating Your Living Legacy

Legacy is not only financial wealth but also values, stories, and talents.

We help you plan to pass your values, talents, and financial resources to impact the living for generations to come. As the bereaved, you can also activate the living legacy of your beloved by supporting the causes important to you and your Honoree.

### 3. Support the Bereaved

We provide financial and emotional support to bereaved families. Through our planned events, grief support sessions, and counseling connections, we help to ensure that no one is left to grieve unloved.

### 4. Empower Your Next Living Phase

The funeral service is only the beginning. The bereaved often have to transition into a new life without the love and support of the ones they lost.

We help to provide that support to make the transition easier.

# Honor so Far

## Honoring the Dead

We cleaned, restored, and beautified cemeteries in Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. We look forward to expanding this program to more states and countries.

## Eatonville Event

United with the Eatonville Community Cemetery Association, we met with volunteers to plant flowers at hundreds of graves. We helped ensure that unvisited graves received a fresh, long-lasting, signature bouquet in Honor of the decedent.

## Memorial Day 2022

Thanks to our sponsors and team of volunteers, we visited four cemeteries and replaced American flags on **over 500 veteran graves**.

The cemeteries we visited were:

- Dr. Phillips Cemetery
- Evergreen Cemetery
- Eatonville Memorial Gardens
- Rose Hill Cemetery



Special thanks to our volunteers and sponsors for our cemetery beautification events

## Activating Living Legacies

We started our Honor Stories Program to highlight memories of the deceased as written by their loved ones.

We hosted luncheons for military members to come together in Honor of their deceased friends.

Our focus on death awareness and education moved forward with the debut of our Honorable Legacy website.



Our VFW Luncheon Event



# Serving in 2022



It was our Honor to provide lunch, deserts, entertainment, and gifts at the 2022 Gold Star Family Day

## Supporting the Bereaved

We distributed vigil items and grief counseling vouchers throughout the year to bereaved families.

We funded two burials.

We constructed a new home for a widow.

## 2022 Gold Star Family Day

Working with eight VFW Auxiliaries, we organized a luncheon event for Gold Star families.

We Honored over 200 families and friends of deceased military members with a whimsical gala and gifts.

## Empowering the Next Living Phase

We connected the bereaved with grief counselors and legal professionals to assist them with moving forward.

We provided a safe space and system for widows to meet for grief work individually or together.

We distributed Death-care education resources to encourage death awareness in the community.



# Looking Forward

## Christmas Campaign

### Providing gifts for orphans during the Holidays



#### Bereaved children deserve a normal Christmas.

It is tragic to lose a parent, especially when the holiday season arrives. As they strive to have a typical Christmas, they struggle to do so with a missing piece of their family.

Surviving family members may find themselves overcome with grief and unable to continue the tradition, leaving the children confused about why they are not in a celebratory spirit.

Christine shared during our Widows Group meeting that she did not have the strength to

take over her husband's role as Santa.

The children did not understand why Santa deserted them the same year their father died.

As such, Honorable Legacy is partnering with funeral homes to make Christmas memorable for children whose parent(s) died in 2021 and 2022.

*The children did not understand why Santa deserted them the same year their father died.*

The fundamental mission of the Honorable Legacy Cares® child gift campaign is to distribute new, unwrapped toys tailored to the child. Through our registration program, we learn three gifts the child has asked for and deliver them from Santa.

Working together, we can help ensure that Christmas does not die when a parent dies.

## 2023 Spring Cemetery Beautification

### Honorable Legacy's Restoration and Beautification Taskforce is gearing up!

Our volunteers are ready for the new year and a unique opportunity to beautify cemeteries.

The task force has a goal of replacing 25 headstones and honoring over 700 veterans with new flags.

We are also supplying up on our signature weather-resisting bouquet to plant next to headstones.



*With your help we can do even more to beautify cemeteries in 2023*

# Get Involved

## Christmas 2022

**BECOME A TOY  
COLLECTION  
SITE**

**REGISTER AN  
ORPHAN YOU  
KNOW**

**DONATE FOR  
CHILDREN'S  
TOYS**

**VOLUNTEER FOR  
TOY DELIVERY**

## Spring 2023

**PURCHASE A  
HEADSTONE**

**JOIN OUR  
CEMETERY  
TASKFORCE**

**VOLUNTEER FOR  
2023 EVENTS**

**DONATE TO  
HONOR**



