

1 ABOUT BIRLS

The **Beneficiary Identification Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS)** is a database originally created by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs containing an index to basic biographical information on over 19.5 million deceased American veterans who received VA benefits during their lifetime. The database includes veterans from all branches of the U.S. military, including defunct branches such as the Women's Army Corps (WACs) and Army Air Corps, as well as Philippine Commonwealth Army veterans and Philippine Scouts. In 2018, the non-profit *Reclaim The Records* filed a successful FOIA lawsuit against the VA, and the database was published as free, open, searchable data in December 2024. Finding a name in BIRLS means you can submit a free FOIA request for the veteran's complete VA claims file, which may contain hundreds of pages of biographical and military service documentation.

2 RECORD DATA

LABEL	DATA
GIVEN NAME	HANDLEY
MIDDLE NAME	F
LAST NAME	SAYRE
DATE OF BIRTH	April 26, 1956
DATE OF DEATH	July 27, 2022
ENTERED/ENLISTED	on September 5, 1973 at age 17
RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY	on May 27, 1975 at age 19
SERVED	approx. 21 months
DIED	age 66
CAUSE OF DEATH	[data not present]
SSN	292-56-7843
GENDER	[data not present]
FILE NUMBER	292567843