



# Patriot Guard Riders

## Standing For Those Who Stood For US



The Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) has been in existence for a little over 5 years, and was originally formed by American Legion Riders in Kansas as a result of protests which were taking place at funerals of US service members killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Patriot Guard Riders is a diverse amalgamation of riders and non-riders from across the nation. We have one thing in common: an unwavering respect for those who risk their very lives for America's freedom and security. If you share this respect, please join us.

We don't care what you ride or if you ride, what your political views are, or whether you're a hawk or a dove. It is not a requirement that you be a veteran. It doesn't matter where you're from or what your income is; you don't even have to ride a motorcycle. The only prerequisite is Respect.

Our main mission is to attend the funeral services of fallen American heroes *as invited guests of the family*. Each mission we undertake has two basic objectives:

1. Show our sincere respect for our fallen heroes, their families, and their communities.
2. Shield the mourning family and their friends from interruptions created by any protestor or group of protestors.

We accomplish the latter through strictly legal and non-violent means.

PGR will provide a flag line (honor guard) at the **funeral or memorial service of any veteran, active duty soldier, or public safety first responder (police and fire) who dies if requested to do so by the family**. PGR will also provide a funeral escort from the Church or mortuary to the cemetery if requested by the family.

PGR also does escorts and flag lines for troops deploying overseas, as well as troops returning home from their tour of duty. It doesn't matter if it is one soldier or an entire unit - we are there for them.

As of the spring of 2011, there were 3,000 PGR members in Arizona, and over 250,000 PGR members nationwide. In Arizona alone we perform about 300 missions per year, about 150 of which are funerals. Of the 150 about half are KIA (killed in action) or active duty funerals.

All of these services are provided free of charge to the soldier, veteran or family. Any donations we receive go towards the purchase or replacements of flags and other material items we use - none of it goes to PGR riders themselves.

I would like to invite members of your group to become active and participate in PGR missions in the north-central Arizona area. If any members of your group would like to receive notices of missions in northern and central Arizona directly from me, they can e-mail me at [prescottbikers@hotmail.com](mailto:prescottbikers@hotmail.com) and I will add them to my master notification list for this area.

To register with PGR and get notices of all missions throughout the State of Arizona, go to both of the following:

Patriotguard.org (this is the national website)

Standtallstandproud.org (this is the State website)

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## **Come Join Us**

We don't care what you ride, what your political views are, or whether you're a "hawk" or a "dove". It is not a requirement to be a veteran. It doesn't matter where you're from or what your station in life is. You don't even have to ride a motorcycle. All we ask is that you bring your heart and join us in showing respect for those who have served our country. We do many types of missions and have many opportunities for people to become involved. Come see us in action, and we guarantee you'll experience the same feelings that have brought us all together to honor our troops.

## **Organizational Structure**

The Patriot Guard Riders is an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization. We are not a protest or counter-protest group. In fact, we shy away from politics as much as possible. We are not a motorcycle club or "gang". We do have a "chain of command" that includes a State Captain, 5 Assistant State Captains and multiple Ride Captains. We also have a "Help on the Homefront" (HOTH) coordinator, a Native American Liaison, and a Military Liaison. For every mission we perform, we attempt to have someone act as the "Ride Captain" who is there to coordinate activities and ensure the mission runs as smoothly as possible.

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