

★ *No Member Dies Alone* ★
Vision

The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
for Veterans is committed
to providing caring support
and companionship to
every dying member.



For more information on NMDA:
**Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
Volunteer Office
616.364.5331**

**Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
3000 Monroe Ave. NE
Grand Rapids MI 49505
www.michigan.gov/veterans**



*No one should die alone . . .
Each human should die with the
sight of a loving face.*

~ Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Caring

No Member Dies Alone (NMDA) is a one-of-a-kind program in which volunteers provide companionship and assistance to members who are entering the final stages of life.

NMDA volunteers:

- ★ Provide comfort at the bedside when family and friends can't be present.
- ★ Ensure that no one should have to face the challenge of death alone.
- ★ Hold the member's hand, talk and listen to the member.
- ★ Read to the member or play music, making the member comfortable.

If you are interested in volunteering you can apply at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Volunteer Office. In addition to the regular volunteer application process, everyone desiring to serve as a vigil volunteer will also have a special interview to determine fitness for the NMDA team. Sensitivity and compassion are crucial, and team members must feel reasonably comfortable interacting with those nearing death.

End of life care training is provided to all new NMDA volunteers. You will learn how a unit functions, member privacy regulations, bedside protocol, communication skills and self-care. You will also shadow an experienced volunteer before beginning your service. The Volunteer Office will assist you in registering for these orientation sessions.

Comforting

★ *No Member Dies Alone* ★ *Mission*

When one of our members enters the final stages of life having no family or friends present, or if those present need respite; GRVH will enfold that member with dignity and honor by continuous support and companionship, ensuring no member dies alone.

Compassion