

## THE BASIC CRITERIA FOR QUALIFYING

- ✓ Veteran must have served at least one day during a qualified war period
- ✓ Veteran must have served at least 90 days of active duty
- ✓ Veteran received a better than dishonorable discharge
- ✓ Claimant is over the age of 65 or permanently or totally disabled
- ✓ Claimant is a surviving spouse of a qualified veteran and did not remarry
- ✓ Claimant or spouse needs assistance with daily living requirements
- ✓ Claimant's monthly medical expenses (as broadly defined by the VA) equals or exceeds their monthly income, all of which is determined after the veteran's affairs are appropriately arranged

**John F. Robbert** is the founder of Chesapeake Legal Counsel, LLC, a law firm dedicated to assisting veterans,



other senior citizens, and their families in planning. He has practiced law for over 50 years, and is licensed in Delaware, Maryland, and Louisiana.

**WHY HE CARES:** John is the son of Captain Albert A. Robbert, Jr, a veteran of World War II who, in addition to his two Purple Hearts, was awarded the Bronze Star and the Silver Star for his heroism in saving the lives of those who served with him. When Albert's wife had Alzheimer's and he tried to care for her at home, the VA neglected to advise him that Pension Benefits were available. ***John believes that ALL veterans have a right to know what's available.***



# VETERAN'S Aid & ASSISTANCE

**WHY YOU SHOULD CARE  
WHAT IS AVAILABLE  
HOW TO QUALIFY  
WHO CAN HELP**

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## A VETERAN'S BENEFIT

The Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA) sponsors a major benefits program for non-service connected disability called the VA Improved Pension. It provides financial assistance to qualified veterans and their surviving spouses. The biggest problem with the program is the fact that the VA does a poor job of publicizing and explaining the program. ***The goal of Chesapeake Legal Counsel is to remedy the VA's shortcomings so that ALL veterans are aware of the benefits that Congress makes available to them.***

**Pictured throughout:  
Captain Albert A. Robbert, Jr.,  
recipient of two Purple Hearts,  
the Bronze Star, and the Silver Star**

## WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

Unlike "compensation" which is the benefit paid to veterans who have disabilities incurred or aggravated during active duty, the pension benefit is available to any veteran who served during a period of war and who is disabled from a cause not necessarily related to their military service.

Because pension benefits are based on the disability, the income, and the net worth of the veteran, many veterans assume that they would not qualify for this benefit. However, in regard to taxes the Supreme Court has said over and over again that "there is nothing sinister in arranging affairs as to keep taxes as low as possible. Everyone does it, rich and poor alike and all do right, for nobody owes any public duty to pay more than the law demands."



The pension is a benefit that veterans earn due to their service to the country and they can so arrange their affairs as to qualify for this benefit.

An accredited VA Planning Attorney can guide the veteran and his/her family through the process and assist them in arranging their affairs that not only considers all pertinent laws (on trusts, on taxes, on real estate), but also takes into consideration the individual dynamics of the veteran's family situation. The big picture is considered in every small detail.

## WHAT IS AVAILABLE

The VA Improved Pension was established to provide financial assistance to veterans and their spouses, allowing them to live out their lives in dignity and afford basic necessities.

The benefit is NOT dependent upon service related injuries. It helps cover the cost of qualified, un-reimbursed medical expenses, including in-home care and assisted living facility care.

Though it has been in existence for decades, most veterans and their families have never heard about it, and if they have, they are not given guidance on how to qualify.

## VA PENSION AMOUNTS FOR 2022

### Single Qualified Veteran:

Basic Improved Pension	\$1229/month
Pension with Housebound	\$1502/month
Pension with A&A	\$2050/month

### Qualified Veteran with Spouse:

Basic Improved Pension	\$1610/month
Pension with Housebound	\$1883/month
Pension with A&A	\$2431/month

### Surviving Spouse (Death Pension):

Basic Improved Pension	\$824/month
Pension with Housebound	\$1007/month
Pension with A&A	\$1318/month