

Mount St. Joseph University
Posthumous Degree Policy

1. A request for the awarding of a posthumous degree may be initiated by the deceased student's family as a request to the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA).
2. The Registrar will review the student's record to determine whether the student has met the following criteria:
 - a. the student is in good academic and social standing with the University.
 - b. the student's cause of death was not due to any unlawful activity by the student.
 - c. the student has completed more than 90 semester hours to earn an undergraduate degree or has 6 to 9 semester hours remaining to earn a graduate degree. (Other criteria may be considered at the discretion of the Registrar and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.)
3. The Registrar will note if the student was enrolled at the time of death or was an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces, federal military reserve forces, or National Guard.
4. A notation that the degree is presented posthumously is indicated on the student's paper and electronic records. It will appear on the transcript, commencement program and diploma. The student's name in the commencement program will be listed parenthetically noted "Posthumous". The diploma will say, "Awarded Posthumously". The transcript will be noted that it is a posthumous degree.
5. The diploma may be presented to a family member during the commencement ceremony at the families' request.
6. A deceased student who does not meet the semester hour requirement for a degree may be awarded a posthumous certificate of recognition, if appropriate. The certificate is posted on the transcript and is presented privately. A lower posthumous degree (AS instead of BS) may also be considered.