

Mikhail Kalashnikov Receives State Funeral

By [The Moscow Times](#)

January 10, 2014



Legendary gun designer Mikhail Kalashnikov was buried Friday at a new military cemetery outside Moscow.

President Vladimir Putin, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and a host of other high-ranking officials paid their respects at the funeral, held with full state honors at the Federal Military Memorial Complex in the Moscow suburb of Mytishchi.

Putin laid red roses on Kalashnikov's coffin and offered condolences to family members.

The military fired salvos with AK-47s in a fitting last tribute to Kalashnikov, who designed the iconic assault rifle that brought him lasting fame.

Yelena Kalashnikova, the late designer's daughter, said at the funeral that her father had dedicated his whole life to serve Russia and "never thought of anything else."

Over 60,000 people paid their last respects to Kalashnikov, who died on Monday, during

the two days of mourning in his native Izhevsk before his coffin was flown to Moscow on Thursday.

The Kalashnikov Group, the newly formed small-arms holding that still manufactures derivatives of the AK-47, has said it plans to turn Kalashnikov's office into a small museum and to establish an award bearing his name to honor its best branches and employees.

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