

# G.A.R. Cemetery

## Family \* Heritage \* Legacy



Silence----

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What's in a name?

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The Power of  
Kindness

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*The Dash*

Pg 5

**LIVE YOUR  
DASH**

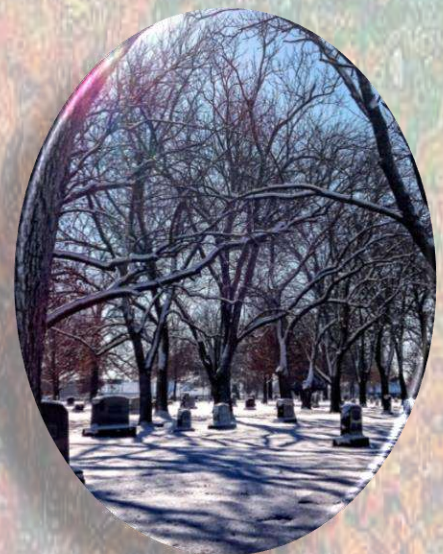
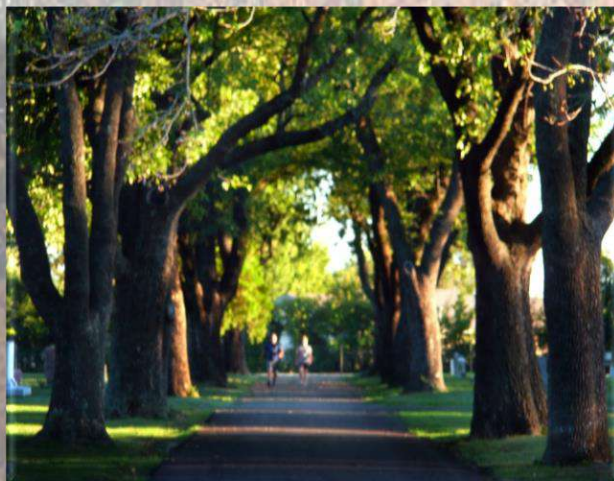
AN INSPIRATIONAL  
NEWSLETTER



*"Carry out a  
random act of  
kindness, with no  
expectation of  
reward, safe in  
the knowledge  
that one day  
someone might do  
the same for you."*

*~Lady Dianna*

*“Silence is a Source of Great Strength” ~Lao Tzu*





*Kim Horn*  
*HR/Cemetery Director*



*Saying nothing... sometimes says the most.*

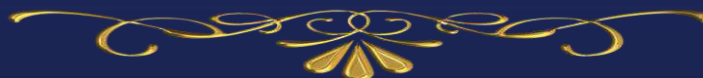
~Emily Dickinson

## Silence----

“I am rather inclined to silence.”—Abraham Lincoln

Can a picture express the power of silence? G.A.R. is most beautiful in its silence. The early morning when deer gather in the back of the cemetery and mist is still on the ground. When the birds are chirping and the sounds of the mowers and weed eaters haven't started yet. The beginning of a new day to come with all the possibilities.

Many times, people will visit their loved ones in the cemetery by themselves. To enjoy the silence of being with their thoughts and memories of their family and friends. To our staff these solitary visitors are comforting. We are respectful of their space. These visitors represent the lasting bonds of family and friendship. They highlight why our work is rewarding and reinforce to us that we get to play a part in continuing to care for their loved one, so they have a place to visit to remember them. For those solitary visitors and their moments of silence.... we are grateful.





**Fred Billups**  
G.A.R. Cemetery  
Manager



## *What's in a name?*

*That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."*

— William Shakespeare, *Romeo and Juliet*

What is in a name? Take my name Fredrick. If you google my name it will tell you it means peaceful ruler. Of course, it will be spelled with the "e" between Fred and Rick and mine is not. My Dad told me that I was named after two of his friends that he lost, a Fred and a Rick. My last name Billups (much harder to find on Google) means "to love horse". This is definitely not me. I was thrown too many times and I will never get on another! The top last name in America is Smith. The top first name in America is James. So how many James Smiths have you met? I can only think of one. We have two buried at G.A.R. When we are out on the grounds, we read the names quite often, and I love finding unique and old sounding names. I love the Beulah's and Gertie's. The first name of "Burl" always sounds tough to me, like the hero in a cop movie. We have someone who's first name is Boze. Sometimes you come across a monument with their nickname. My favorite nickname is "Dutch" I always picture a 50s leather jacket and greased hair. In cases of people like my dad, many more people know him by the moniker "Lumpy" than "Steve". The thing we must always remember is behind every name we see and read, is a legacy. The monuments in the cemetery stand as a mark that they were here and that they lived a life no matter how brief or long and that they will not be forgotten.

# The Dash

## *The Dash*

*By: Linda Ellis*

*I read of a man who stood to speak at a funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning to the end.*

*He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.*

*For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house... the cash. What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.*

*So, think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.*

*To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile... remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.*

*So, when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash, would you be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?*

### **WHAT DOES LIVE YOUR DASH MEAN?**

To "live your Dash" means to boldly live a life that impassions you while positively impacting your family, friends, community and even strangers. Your Dash need not be perfect; it's an ongoing journey to living a life filled with joy and intention, and it looks different for everyone.

**LIVE YOUR  
DASH**  
AN INSPIRATIONAL  
NEWSLETTER



# A Day At

# G.A.R.



Nancy Bro  
G.A.R. Cemetery  
Office Manager

## How Powerful is the Act of Kindness?

**T**he acts of kindness can most definitely be a very powerful thing when a person does something with kindness in heart to selflessly give with no benefit of their own.

Recently a lovely lady named Ms. Flick, came to the office and asked if there were any unmarked graves within our cemetery. With remorse, I informed her that there were numerous unmarked graves. And, without hesitation she made a very generous donation and asked that we purchase a marker for at least one unmarked grave.

With joy in my heart, I eagerly shared the news with my colleagues and we quickly decided to use the funds to purchase as many military bases for bronze plaques that we could. When a family orders their loved one's military marker, if they choose the bronze plaque, they are not always informed that they also must purchase a granite base for the plaque to be

placed upon for it to be set within G.A.R. Cemetery. Over the years, we received 5 bronze plaques that we never had the granite bases for. And, with no contact information for the family it wasn't possible for us to let the family know... so unfortunately, they sat in our shop unable to be set upon these Veteran's graves.

Upon contacting Muskogee Marble and Granite, they worked out a price so that we could obtain all 5 granite bases! And, we hastily got to work putting them together and getting them set.

This was such an honor for us to be able to do this for these men. So, with great pride, and a magnitude of gratefulness we want to say,

*"Thank You", Ms. Flick for your unselfish "Act of Kindness".*

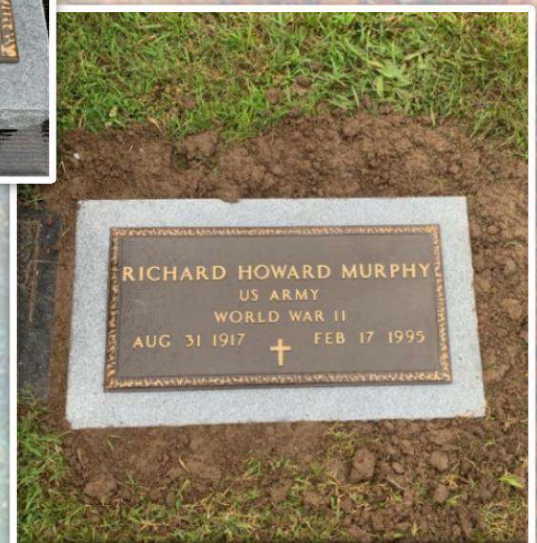
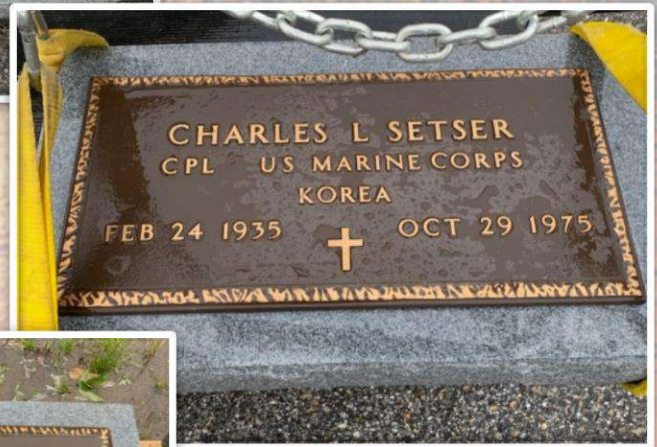


*"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."  
~Lady Dianna*

No act of kindness,  
no matter how small,  
is ever wasted.

- Aesop

# The Power of Kindness





*Save The Date!*

# British Flyers Remembrance Ceremony

"Lest We Forget"





**A.C. 2 Kenneth Ralsbeck**  
26; died June 26, 1944  
"Greater love hath no man that he lay down his life for his country."



**John Ralsbeck**  
Son of Kenneth Ralsbeck  
Returning for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his father's death.

**British Flyers Remembrance Ceremony**  
Saturday, October 19, 2019, 10:30 a.m.  
G.A.R. CEMETERY – 2801 North Main Street  
(918) 541-2288

**English Tea at The Coleman Theatre Ballroom**  
103 North Main Street  
Immediately following the Ceremony

## Adopt~A~Flag Today!

Purchase an American flag for \$50.00 that will be displayed proudly at G.A.R. Cemetery on Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and Veterans Day.

If you wish, the name of a person to be honored will be inscribed onto a plaque that will be displayed with the flag. This program is a great way to show appreciation for a loved one and your country.

### Don't Delay!

**Order by Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to be displayed this Veteran's Day!!!**

For more information visit us at [www.miamiokla.net](http://www.miamiokla.net)  
Or call 918-541-2288

## G.A.R. Cemetery Decoration Removal Schedule

**\*\*All Decorations Must Be Removed from Graves By 8:00 a.m. On the Dates Listed\*\***

DECORATION REMOVAL	DATE
First Monday in February	02/04/2019
Second Monday Following Easter	04/29/2019
First Monday Following Memorial Day	06/03/2019
<b>First Monday in October</b>	<b>10/07/2019</b>

- Wrought iron basket hangers are not permitted except for the time period of December 15<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup> and one week prior to Memorial Day until the first Monday following Memorial Day.
- Notices for our decoration removal schedule will be posted on signs at cemetery entrances the week preceding decoration removals.
- All decorations not collected by date and time listed will be disposed of with no exceptions.
- For more information about the G.A.R. Cemetery decoration removal schedule, please call the cemetery at 918-541-2288.

## Genealogy

Miami Public Library  
200 N Main • Miami, OK

**Barbara Becker**  
[geniedept@miamilib.ok.us](mailto:geniedept@miamilib.ok.us)  
[www.miamipl.okpls.org](http://www.miamipl.okpls.org)

**918-541-2292**

Staff Hours  
Mon, Wed, Thu. 10:00 am - noon, 1:00-5:00 pm  
Tues 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00-4:00 pm

# CONTACT US

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**Nancy Bro**

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