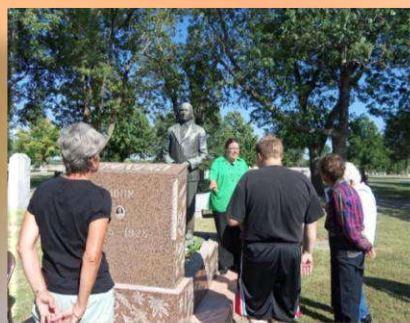




# G.A.R. Cemetery

Grand Army of the Republic  
Miami, Oklahoma



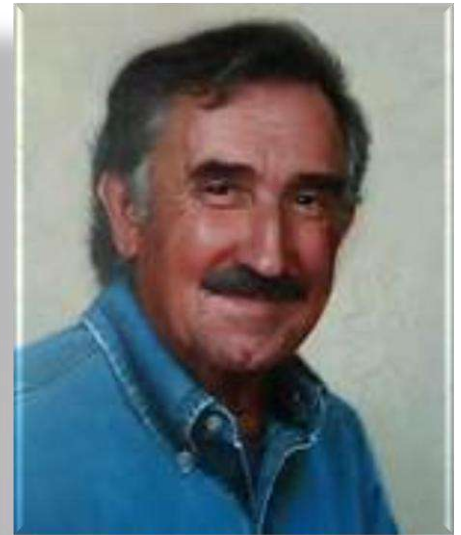
## The G.A.R. Cemetery Living History Tour

2801 N. Main ~ PO BOX 1288 ~ Miami, OK 74355  
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**L.L.C. Ronald Dennis Harrison**, at the age of 19, was one of the British Cadets who was scheduled to arrive here in Miami, Oklahoma, on August 11, 1941 for the very first class held at the Spartan British Flying Training School #3. Unfortunately, the day he was scheduled to depart from Tulsa he had a fatal plane crash of his primary training plane in a field west of Collinsville, Oklahoma. He was buried in the American Legion section of the Tulsa Memorial Park Cemetery.

**John Beaver (1855-1928)** was the second Chief of the Quapaw Indians. He was originally buried on his own allotment, 15 miles northeast of Miami, but was moved to G.A.R. Cemetery on September 18, 1933. He was one of the wealthiest members of the Quapaw Tribe due to the lead and zinc mines. His monument is a bronze sculpture of himself which was cast in Italy. It is one of the most distinctive markers in the cemetery, and people often place pennies in the folded hands of the statue for good luck.

**Charles Banks Wilson (1918-2013)** Wilson's artwork has been shown in exhibitions worldwide and permanent collections of his work are housed in some of the most world renowned museums and art galleries, including New York's Metropolitan Museum. His historical murals wrap the State Capitol Rotunda in Oklahoma City. He also established the Art Department at NEO A&M College, and the Charles Banks Wilson Scholarship, which both have helped many aspiring artists. The NEO Foundation plans to build the Charles Banks Wilson Art Gallery as a way to honor his many contributions.

**The Living History Tour Packets are available year round.  
Come into the office to get yours and take a walking tour today!**





**Everett "Truman" Geouge**  
1923-2009



## Did You Know?

### ➤ ... Everett "Truman" Geouge?

- ✓ Everett "Truman" Geouge, as a youngster, spent five months in the CCC program, and then joined the U.S. Navy during WWII. His interest in aviation was cultivated during his service as a radio operator and tail gunner in the Pacific Theater.

### ➤ ... With what Association Truman Geouge was involved?

- ✓ Truman Geouge was instrumental in working with the British Flyers Training School #3 Association, which was located here in Miami, Oklahoma during WWII by organizing their reunions.

### ➤ ... What Truman Geouge was once quoted as saying?

- ✓ "Aviation makes for common ground among uncommon men. Up there, everyone is equal. When you're at the controls, it's you, the sky, and the Almighty. There is nothing in the world to compare with the exhilaration you get from being up there."

### ➤ ... That Truman Geouge never gave up his passion for aviation?

- ✓ He operated a crop-dusting service, managed the Miami Municipal Airport, and rebuilt/restored a number of aircraft during his lifetime.

### ➤ ... For what Truman Geouge was best known?

- ✓ Those who knew Truman knew he was afraid of nothing. He was known for his adventurous spirit; from hot rod cars as a young kid, to aerial crop-dusting and aerobatic flying, or taking a spin on his Harley Davidson.



*Click this link to watch the Truman Geouge Tribute*



**G.A.R. Cemetery**

# BRITISH FLYERS

**REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY****Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m.**

Our annual British Flyers Remembrance Ceremony and Reception is Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Cemetery. A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony at the NEO Ballroom in the Student Union Center on the NEO Campus. The NEO Jazz Band will once again be playing at the reception, and numerous memorabilia items from B.F.T.S. #3 will be displayed. Please join us for this annual event that continues to honor the fifteen British Cadets who were killed in training accidents while attending B.F.T.S. #3 from 1941-1945. Miami was one of only six locations in the United States that was home to a British Flying Training School during WWII. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and reception to help us continue to honor this unique part of Miami's History.





Kim Horn,  
G.A.R. Cemetery  
Manager

The Cemetery Staff mourns the passing of Mayor Kent Ketcher. Mayor Ketcher was a friend to G.A.R. He worked to find resources to make necessary improvements and upgrades to the cemetery, and supported our efforts by attending many of our events. I appreciated our candid conversations about what he felt we could do better. He was just as willing to let me know when he thought we excelled. Mayor Ketcher understood that G.A.R. is a special place rich with historical significance. He knew the importance of continuing to honor family and friends who are buried here. We will be forever thankful for his efforts and support.



# FYI...



Did you know that at G.A.R. Cemetery there is a rule stating that no wooden boxes will be allowed?

This doesn't mean no wooden caskets. We are talking about the box that houses the casket. With the passage of time, wooden boxes deteriorate and make a "void" in the earth that can create problems.

That is why G.A.R. Cemetery requires a vault, usually made of concrete, but some are made of steel.



**Chad Masterson**  
G.A.R. Cemetery  
Foreman

## A Day at G.A.R.



**Nancy Bro,**  
G.A.R. Cemetery  
Office Manager

As I prepared for our "Living History Tour", I was able to take time to explore our beautiful cemetery grounds. Memorial markers

illustrate amazing artists, a bronze rider, craftsmanship, and loving parents, nature are truly beautiful lovers, & sports works of art. From enthusiast... the list the engravings that goes on and on. are intricately etched, to sculptured crosses and angels, each one shows us a glimpse of the personalities and lives of those they represent. Veterans, forefathers, actors, &

So let us all remember to look for the little things that are so often missed. You might just be amazed at what you actually see... I know I am.





**2013****EVENT SCHEDULE**❖ **British Flyers****Remembrance Ceremony**Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 @ 2:00

Reception will follow:

NEO A&amp;M College Ballroom

**ROYAL  
AIR FORCE**❖ **Reflection of Memories  
Candlelight Walk**

The Reflection of  
Memories Candlelight  
Walk has been  
rescheduled for December  
2014. More information  
about this event will be  
included in future  
newsletters.

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at:

[www.miamiokla.net](http://www.miamiokla.net)***Adopt~A~Flag Program***

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.

**Order before November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, to have your flag flown this Veteran's Day!**

For more information visit us at

[www.miamiokla.net](http://www.miamiokla.net) or call 918-541-2288***Help Us Spread the Word***

Do you know someone who would like to receive our Newsletter? Our goal is to supply updated news and event schedules to everyone who has an interest in G.A.R. Cemetery. If you know anyone who would like to be on our mailing list,

Please call

(918) 541-2288

Or send your request to

[nbro@miamiokla.net](mailto:nbro@miamiokla.net)

# Interested In Genealogy?

*Visit our Library!*

**Miami Public Library**  
200 N Main  
Miami, OK 74354  
918-541-2292

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

## Staff Hours:

**Mon, Wed, Fri. 10:00 a.m. - noon, 1:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Tues 9:00 a.m. – noon, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**



## *A Friendly Reminder*

*All Decorations must be removed from the graves  
by **8:00 am***

*On the First Monday in October.*

**October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013**