

G.A.R. Cemetery



Family * Heritage * Legacy

G.A.R. Legacy

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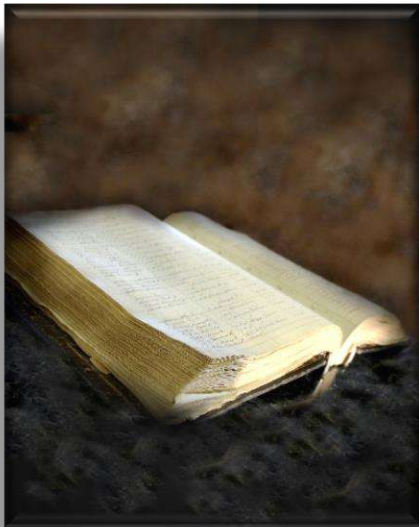
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January 30, 2020 – ISSUE 20





G.A.R. Cemetery's BIG BOOK
Est. 1892

G.A.R. Cemetery's "BIG BOOK"

When you come to the G.A.R. Cemetery office, more than likely you will see our "Big Book". We are quite often asked, "how old is it?" We are not sure of its exact age, as we know that the type of recordkeeping was surely different in the beginning. However, our earliest recorded burial is for Atha Josephine Cardin whom was interred on 01/01/1892.

Not much is known about Ms. Cardin, except that she was born in 1872, and her family moved to Miami Indian Territory in 1885. She was of Quapaw decent, and she passed in 1892 before she was given her land allotment.

We estimate that there are over 21,089 recorded burials within our cemetery. Unrecorded, or unknown locations of individuals that are known, or believed to be interred here at G.A.R. are yet to be discovered.

G.A.R. Cemetery's On-Line Burial Records

Remember My Journey

G.A.R. Cemetery's "Remember My Journey" memorial page located on the online burial records is available for all to utilize.

In this program you will be able to create a complete timeline of your loved one. From the very beginning, all the way through their journey of life. You will be able to up-load photographs, important documents, share their Military information, reflect on memories you have of them, incorporate family genealogy, important milestones, and so much more.

If you have information or pictures of family or friends interred at G.A.R. Cemetery we encourage you to kindly share and create a timeless memorial of your loved one's Remember My Journey memorial page.

For an excellent example of this feature you may click the link below or call Nancy Bro at (918) 541-2288 for more information.

[Remember My Journey](#)

More to the Story



John Beaver

Photo credit: G.A.R. CEMETERY



John Beaver

Quapaw leader John Beaver (1855-1928), who was made wealthy by the lead and zinc mines.

Photo credit: quapawtribalancestry.com



John Beaver

John Beaver 90-year-old Second Chief of Quapaws, Dies in Barber Shop as Result of Heart Attack

Aged Leader Had Lived in County Half Century and Was Owner of Valuable Mining Land, Including Ritz Lease-Funeral to Be Wednesday

John Beaver, second chief of the Quapaw Indian tribe and resident of Ottawa county for nearly half a century, died at 8:45 o'clock today in the William Bennett barber shop. 8 ½ North Main street.

Chief Beaver was 90 years old, being the second oldest member of the Quapaw tribe. Death was caused by a heart attack, which came while he was... [\(read more\)](#)

Thousands Attend Funeral Rites For John Beaver, Quapaw Chief

Representatives of Many Tribes and Hundreds of White Friends Pay Last Respects to Aged Leader, who is Buried in Full Regalia of His Tribe

On a hillside cemetery on his own allotment, 15 miles northeast of Miami, John Beaver, 90-yr-old second chief of the Quapaw Indians and one of the wealthiest members of the tribe, was laid to rest today. Chief Beaver died Monday in a Miami barber shop.

Upward of 3,000 persons-white man and red-gathered at the Beaver home to pay final honors to the dead chief, long respected by both his own and other peoples. There were delegations from other tribes, including more than two score Osages, wearing their richly colored blankets, prominent business men of Miami and practically the... [\(read more...\)](#)



Photo Above: Quapaw group - 1903 L-R: John Mohawk (Shawnee), unknown, Pius Quapaw, Willie Thompson, John Beaver, Sig Dah Track, Pete Clabber, Joseph Whitebird, Louis Angel, Francis Goodeagle, John Crow

Photo credit: [Group Picture from Internet](#)



Click the photo on the left to read this pamphlet that was created by a direct descendant of John Beaver.



Kim Horn

G.A.R. Cemetery Director



7 Things You May Not Know About G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic)

1. G.A.R. was a patriotic organization comprised of Civil War Veterans who were Union Soldiers.
2. G.A.R. was founded in Springfield, IL in 1866.
3. At the peak of its popularity in 1890, there were more than 410,000 members.
4. In 1956 G.A.R. was dissolved with its records going to the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. and its badges, flags, and official seal to the Smithsonian Institution.
5. The community level organization was called a "Post", and each was numbered consecutively.
6. Five G.A.R. Members were elected President: Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and William McKinley
7. There were two women known to be members of the G.A.R.: Kady Brownell, who served in the Union Army with her husband Robert and Sarah Emma Edmonds who served in the 2nd Michigan Infantry as a disguised man named Franklin Thompson from May 1861 until April 1862.





Fred Billups
G.A.R. Cemetery Manager

GRAVE DIGGER



In pop culture there is very little mention of the humble grave digger. Sure, we appear in a song, movie, or play, sometimes. Like in Shakespeare's Hamlet Act V, Scene 1. Two grave diggers are digging the grave for Ophelia, deciding if the act of her suicide precludes a Christian burial for her. Then Hamlet enters, after grave diggers inform him that they are digging up Yorick to make room for Ophelia, he gives his famous speech where he talks to the skull of his father's beloved jester. Guess back then there were no laws concerning disinterment.

If you go to Wikipedia, there are few entries of famous people that have worked in a graveyard. Singer/songwriter Rod Stewart worked at a cemetery in London. While he never dug any graves, he laid out plots and other manual labor. But he let the urban legend that he was a grave digger go for years because it sounded more rock and roll. Joe Strummer, front man of The Clash worked as a gravedigger in 1973. Tom Petty worked briefly as a grave digger; something he alluded to in his song Mary Jane's Last Dance. Former Major League Baseball player Richie Hebner had an off-season job as a gravedigger at a cemetery managed by his father. Before he was President of America Abraham Lincoln was a sexton of a churchyard in Indiana. Of course, my favorite grave digger is Paul Kudla from Nome Alaska maybe not the most famous to us adults.

But in 2015 he was named "Americas Best Santa" on a televised competition show "Santas in the Barn". You see for six weeks every year "Santa Paul" dons his costume and greets boys and girls at malls and hospitals. To a child I feel that makes him more famous than anyone listed previously.

The truth is many people never think about the humble grave digger, because if we do our job right there is very little need for the family's we serve to even see us. Trust, if you do see us working take solace in the fact that we take the job serious and feel rewarded in our work. There is no better feeling than knowing we get provide a service to a family on one of the hardest days of their lives and in a small part we get to help with the healing process.

A Day At G.A.R.

Notable Quote: "...cemeteries are a memorial to the past of which the future is built. Always remember the sacrifice and teaching of those who went before us and to honor them in some way for the mark they have left on this world not to be forgotten."

~ G.A.R. Cemetery Manager, Fred Billups
Newsletter Issue 17, February 2019, Nobly Advancing, pg. 4



Nancy Bro
G.A.R. Cemetery
Office Manager



Scouts and volunteers come to G.A.R. each year on the Saturday before Memorial Day to set flags by as many Veteran's markers as possible.



**Angel of Hope
Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony**
December 6th, at 7:00 p.m., at G.A.R. Cemetery

This ceremony is open to everyone, no matter how old or young your child was, or even if they are interred at a different cemetery. We at G.A.R. believe that everyone is someone's child and this ceremony is held to give you a place to mourn and heal for the loss of your child.



**British Flyers Remembrance
Ceremony**

John Raisbeck, son of cadet AC2 Kenneth Raisbeck, returned to reflect and honor the 75th anniversary of his father's fatal accident on the 26th of June 1944. This was the 3rd time that John has visited from England. Once in 1995, again in 2016 and this time in 2019. He hopes to return on the 80th anniversary in 2024.



State of Oklahoma Historical Marker

This year, just in time for our annual British Flyers Remembrance Ceremony, we were able to have in place our State of Oklahoma Historical Marker. We applied for it by telling their story to the department whom approves all of the applications throughout the entire state. I am quite sure that you have seen other signs, or granite markers, marking historical locations along the highways all over the United States. We are extremely proud to have been approved for this prestigious marker to make awareness of our Miami history more prevalent to others.

January Interments

Mullins, Patti Lynn
Fromm, William James
Mabon, Norma Jean
Hardcastle, John E
Nutting, Nellie Louise
Reeves, Donna R
Wade, Patsy Louise
Goard, Mary Bear
Randolph, Deborah J
Callahan, Frankie Ruth

February Interments

Gardner, Richard Duane
Logan, Jeanette Ann
Howard, Marjorie Mae
Selle, Harvey Edmond
Knox, Freda Jean
Sooter, Fred Leon
Martin, Alix Elaine
Thompson, Alice Carol
Owen, James Ralph Lee
Kerby, Arlene Mae

March Interments

Keener, Jimmie Lynn
Ladra, Teddie Lucas
Radford, Wanda
Smotherman, Jannie Lou
Robertson, Harold 'Robby' Wayne
Potts, Nellie Lou
Rush, Virginia L
Stanley, Gary Lee
Morgan, Bruce W
Hall, Curtis Eugene

April Interments

Heatherly, Jack Eugene
Burnett, Veda L
Lunsford, Jennifer Wauleah
Moore, Larry E
Berkey, Monte Ray, Sr
Ginn, James Earl, Jr
Heatherly, Jimmie Ray
O'Brien, Conred Eugene
Ware, Granville 'Paul'

April Interments cont....

Brown, Betty Jo
Honey, Georgie Lou
Curl, Anna Bell
Baulche, Bill Dan

May Interments

Epps, Randy
Morgan, Marion Ladell, Jr
Gould, Loren Nelson, Dr.
Mowrey, Shirley Ann
Graham, Nevaeh Skye
Coonts, Phyllis A
Bowen, Christopher Logan
Murphy, Cheryl Renee
Brodrick, James Walter

June Interments

Randall, Carol Jean
Hargrove, Byron Ray
Hargrove, Alice Anetta
Jones, Donald Leroy
Prado, Alicia
Ray, Dorothy
Moudy, Robert Doyn
Turner, Janis Ann
Thompson, Patricia Ann
Sappington, Marjorie Olive
Thomasson, James H
Scarberry, Judith Leann

July Interments

Huffman, Patsy Earlene
Kirk, Wayne
Schertz, Kathleen
Smith, Karey
Laue, Steven James
Post, Charlotte 'Elaine'
Matthews, James Dorfuf
Cooper, Linda Mae
Lloyd, Ernest Richard
Boswell, Samuel Manning, Sr
Ruth, Shirley Donne
McNaughton, John Patrick
McNaughton, Bettye Lee

August Interments

Edwards, Dustin James
Master, Velma Lee
Ardison, Martha Rosley
Kerby, Alvis
Allan, Jerry David
Anderson, Elmer Luke
Tiger, Katherine Kay
Newman, Gary Leroy

September Interments

Merit, Glen
Kopp, Sherma Lee
Cole, Jerry Lee
Fansler, Freida
Kay, Dennis
Streeter, Larry Gene
Sherard, Georgia
Brown, Jesse E
Robinson, 'Jim' James
Anderson, Naomi Ruth
Livingston, John R
Nichols, Gladys Louise
Pryor, Norma Marie
Gold, Patrick David

October Interments

Fisher, Paul R
Streeter, Barnetta Caroline
Hancock, Helen Louise
Townsend, Paul Richard
Billings, Kayla
Kirksey, Helen Bernice

November Interments

Newton, Gayle A
Holden, Claude, Jr
Cline, Raymond Jay
Kiser, Mary Lou
Epps, Rodney Leroy
Smith, Gregory Dayne
McGowen, Stella Jean

December Interments

Randolph, Sandra Kay
King, Jan
Leake, James E
Wallace, Carla



Clip And Save!

Genealogy
Miami Public Library
200 N Main * Miami, OK

Barbara Becker
geniedept@miami.lib.ok.us
www.miamipl.okpls.org

918-541-2324

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

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	02/01/2020
Second Monday Following Easter	04/20/2020
First Monday Following Memorial Day	06/01/2020
First Monday in October	10/05/2020

- Wrought iron basket hangers are not permitted except for the time period of December 15th through January 15th 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.

Adopt~A~Flag

Order by May 15th and have yours displayed

This Memorial Day!

For more information:

Call: (918) 541-2288

Email: nbro@miamiokla.net

Or visit: www.miamiokla.net

CONTACT US

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P: (918) 541-2288 ~ F: (918) 542-2421 ~ Mail: PO BOX 1288,
Miami, OK 74354 ~ or Visit us at: 2801 N Maim, Miami, OK

2020 EVENT SCHEDULE

Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 25th, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m.

British Flyers

Remembrance Ceremony

Saturday, October 17th, 2020 @ 10:30 am

Angel of Hope

Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony

Sunday, December 6th, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Do you know someone
that wants to get our Newsletter?**

Here's How!

Phone: (918) 541-2288 ~ email:

nbro@miamiokla.net ~ web:

www.miamiokla.net