

# G.A.R. Cemetery

*Family \* Heritage \* Legacy*

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"...we make Hero's wishes come true"

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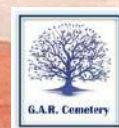
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*Angel of  
Hope*

Our Children  
Loved, Missed, and Remembered



OCTOBER 2021 – ISSUE 24



# ***Dream Flights Arrive In Miami!***

**Dream Flights is a non-profit organization established and dedicated to honoring seniors and military veterans. Through donors, community support and volunteers, the foundation provides Dream Flights in a Boeing Stearman biplane, the same aircraft used to train many military aviators in the late thirties and early forties.**

## **We Give Back to Those Who Gave**

**"As we make these heroes wishes come true, our Dream Flights inspire them to share their stories. We collect, preserve, and share those stories of how they survived through times of great strife to remind us of our shared humanity, our connection to each other and the value of listening."**

**"Our Dream Flights close the generation gap and open us up to a clearer understanding of ourselves and our world."**

**"We're now taking this to new heights with Operation September Freedom. Join our national effort to locate and honor as many World War II veterans as possible with free Dream Flights in 2021."**

*Pictured on the right are Veteran, Kenneth Baldwin, 95 years old and his wife Mary, residents of Miami.*

*The two Dream Flights pilots: James Sims and Eric Mueller.*

*The American Legion Post 147, and a representative from the DAV were present to support and witness the flight.*

*The main pilot James Sims went on to explain that they are all volunteers and do about 4000 flights a year. They cover all the contingent 49 states, and they consider it a privilege to give back and honor these American Veterans.*

*Hopefully we will see them again sometime.*







# Why Choose A Final Resting Place for Your Loved One

by Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D.

Provided by the Center for Loss and Life Transition.

When a loved one dies, many important decisions must be made.

How the person's body will be cared for and where it will be placed are among these decisions. Especially if you have chosen cremation, this article will help your family understand the many benefits of choosing a final resting place for your loved one.

## **After cremation**

Traditionally, people who died were placed in caskets and buried in cemeteries. In recent years, however, cremation has become the most popular choice. Today in North America, the bodies of well over half of all people who die are cremated.

After cremation, there are still decisions to be made. Many families find themselves unsure what to do with their loved one's cremated remains.

1. Some families choose to have the remains placed in a niche in a columbarium or in a formal scattering garden.
2. Others choose to bury the remains alongside the bodies of other loved ones in a cemetery.
3. Still others scatter the remains in one or several meaningful locations.
4. And finally, many families take the remains home and put them in a place of honor.

While all of these choices have unique benefits, choices 3 and 4 also have drawbacks that could affect your family in the years ahead as well as for generations to come.

## **What is a final resting place?**

A final resting place is a permanent, secure, sacred, and public location for the placement of a body or cremated remains. It is usually marked by a plaque or headstone with the name and birth and death dates of the person who lived.

## **Why choose a final resting place for your loved one?**

There are many reasons why you should consider choosing a final resting place for your loved one. Let's talk a little bit about some of the most important reasons.

### *Respect*

Most people would agree that even in death, the body of a precious loved one deserves respect. This also applies to cremated remains, of course. When we place the body or remains in a permanent, secure, sacred, and public location, we are forever honoring the life of the person who died as well as the body that animated that life.



### *Connection*

A final resting place is a special place for you and others to visit as well as a spot for friends and family to gather and remember. Without a final resting place to know about and visit, many grieving people end up feeling adrift and lost, not knowing where to direct their grief. This often happens with inaccessible, undefined, or unmarked scattering locations.

### *Legacy*

Honoring family heritage is another essential reason to select a final resting place after cremation. The location you choose will become a place for both friends and family to pay their respects for generations to come.

### *Expression*

Grief is what we think and feel inside us after someone we love dies. Mourning is expressing those thoughts and feelings outside ourselves. And mourning is how we begin to heal. Visiting a final resting place often helps us mourn. It's a healthy way to give expression to our grief.

### *Peace of Mind*

As cremation becomes more and more popular, many families are accumulating cremated remains in their homes. What will happen to all those urns and other containers 20, 30, 50 or more years from now? Choosing a secure, appropriate final resting place for each loved one is a gift to the next generation. Instead of transferring the burden to them, you take responsibility for creating long-term peace of mind.

### **A final word**

Keep in mind that even if you take your loved one's cremated remains home with you initially, it is still beneficial to choose a final resting place later. Consider holding a small ceremony on an anniversary of the death as you commit the remains to their final resting place.

Choosing a final resting place is a gift not only to the person who died but also to your family and everyone who mourns the death, including you. You will find respect, connection, legacy, expression, and peace of mind in the decision.

### **About the Author**

Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt is a noted author, educator and practicing grief counselor. He serves as Director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado and presents dozens of grief-related workshops each year across North America. Among his books are *Healing Your Grieving Heart: 100 Practical Ideas* and *The Healing Your Grieving Heart Journal for Teens*.

For More information from Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt visit his website at:

<https://www.centerforloss.com/about-the-center-for-loss/about-dr-alan-wolfelt/>



# Eagle Project 2021

## Hayden Inman Eagle Project 2021



**Thank you for your support!!**

**Pictured Above:**

Left; Josh Cox, right; Hayden Inman

**Pictured Above: Top:** Josh Cox and Hayden Inman

**Pictured above, Bottom L-R:** Grant Cox, Josh Cox, Hayden Inman, Nika Blevins, Sonny Jung.

Over the years G.A.R. Cemetery has had Eagle Scouts come to us for their Eagle Project. They use their time to log the Military markers that we have on our grounds. With over 21,000 interments, this is a painstaking endeavor. Even though they do come to do this project, we still have many veteran's markers that need to be recorded and entered to our database.

G.A.R. Cemetery wants to thank each of them for their commitment to preserve historical information and to help build the lasting legacies of these honorable Veteran's.

# THE CADET CHRONICLE

For this highlight in The Cadet Chronicle , we will be sharing information from our archives about one of our cadets that had a short but impactful life.

~ Jack Taylor



LAC Jack Taylor was one of the 2,124 Royal Air Force Cadets that trained here at Miami, Oklahoma during WWII at the #3 British Flying Training School, Spartan School of Aeronautics in Course #4.



LAC Jack Taylor was one of the 2,124 Royal Air Force Cadets that trained here at Miami, Oklahoma during WWII at the #3 British Flying Training School, Spartan School of Aeronautics in Course #4. Mrs. Frantie "Frances" Hill grew quite fond of him and thought of him as a son.

Our understanding is that after graduation Jack was shot down across enemy lines. His parachute was caught by some trees, and he was executed by the enemy. When Mrs. Hill heard of this news she was devastated.

Mrs. Hill always attended every funeral held for the British Cadet's that had lost their lives during training and cared for the graves since 1941. The passing of Jack Taylor enforced her dedication to continue to do so for over 40 years, for which she received the King's Medal.



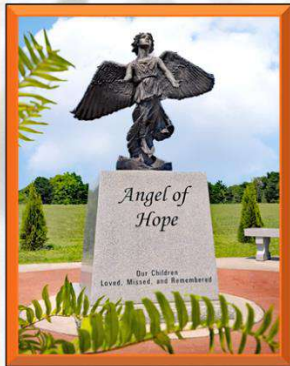
# Bulletin Board

## Upcoming Events

- **British Flyers Remembrance Ceremony**  
Saturday 10/23/2021 @ 10: 30 a.m.
- **Angel of Hope Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony**
  - Sunday, December 6, 2020  
7:00 p.m.
- **Decoration Removal**
  - 1st Monday in February  
02/07/2022 – Will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m.



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### On the Cover

## Angel of Hope

Our "Garden of Angels" section where our beautiful Angel of Hope stands, and it is one of our most popular areas for urn interments. With the rising cost of burials this is an excellent option to keep control of your costs.

Visit us today to find out more!



## Contact Us

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(918) 541-2288

### [Angel of Hope Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony](#)

Join us on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. as we remember our lost children. White carnations and candles will be provided. For more information click the link above or call the G.A.R. Cemetery office at (918) 541-2288.



## LEARN MORE



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Lasting Legacy**

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Some days are better,  
some days are worse.

Look for the blessing  
instead of the curse.

Be positive, stay strong  
and get enough rest.

You can't do it all, but you  
can do your best.

~Doe Zantamata