



G.A.R. Cemetery

*Family * Heritage * Legacy*



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What happens when we run out of burial space? Cities around the world are starting to get creative.

By [Bess Lovejoy](#) • September 30, 2020

What are you looking for in a Cemetery?

In this forum, we will ask “What are you looking for in a cemetery?”.

Have you visited other cemeteries that had something you would like for us to offer? We strive to provide our community with the services that you wish for when it comes to the aftercare of your loved ones.

We have been researching ways to improve the options we can offer to you.

We want your feedback and encourage you to call or email us with your thoughts, ideas, yeas, or nays.



Cremation Garden example found on internet,
unknown location

Availability & Innovation

What kind of burial plot would you like for us to offer? Family Estates? Cremation Gardens? Rosary Garden? Water Feature? Scattering Garden? Green Burials? The list goes on.

Currently, we are building a new area called “Walk of Faith”. In this area we plan to have a walking path with inspirational signage, landscaping, and shade structures. Our intention is to include a variety of columbaria options for you to choose from.

Opportunity

Would you like to see more hands-on learning opportunities for our community, schools, churches, and organizations?

We’ve even thought of having grief support meetings in the gazebo. What about an afternoon walk to be in better health?

Have you ever thought about volunteering? We have an abundance of things that we could use assistance with, like entering data, research, and so much more!



Jonathan Appell hosting 48 States in 48 Days
at G.A.R. Cemetery September 24,2020

Cultural Traditions



Traditional cultures are those that are organized around elements of the past, such as customs and habits of previous societies. In this sense, they hold in high esteem the inheritance of the ancestors.

They are mostly organized in small communities and tribes to allow the preservation of their beliefs and traditions through rituals and religious practices.

Our community has a vast group of many different cultures and Religions. Would you like to see a ceremony celebrating Indigenous Peoples Day? What ideas do you have to celebrate your culture? A feast? A prayer vigil? Or would your church like to hold Easter Sunday morning sunrise service in the Gazebo? We at G.A.R. Cemetery want to help you celebrate every life and every culture of our diverse community. Call us and let's talk Cultural Traditions!

Cultural examples found on internet, unknown location, unknown identities.



Events

Cinema in the Cemetery: What fun it would be to have a Civil War movie play around Memorial Day. Or a classic black and white horror movie like Dracula or a spooky comedy family movie around Halloween? Would you be interested in joining us for a free movie and all concessions would go to a fund raiser for the cemetery?



Before I Die: Have you heard of the "Before I die" chalk board project? There are many of these all over the world. These boards give you the opportunity to express your most dire wish that you want to do before you die. Or it could be something that you would probably never do in your lifetime, but it sure would be fun if you could! This is another thing that we are considering bringing to our community in the future!



Communicating with the Grieving

Losing a loved one is one of the hardest things most of us will experience in our lifetime. Grieving takes time and support. If you have personally experienced the loss of a loved one, you know the dynamics of the rollercoaster of emotions you, family members, or friends may experience.

Grief happens in stages, which means no one set of questions are perfect, and there is no time limit on grief. As you begin the conversation, find a private place to talk. Be open, interested, and respectful. And it is OK to speak of the person in the past tense.

The questions below are simple yet powerful and we sincerely hope they help. As the person moves through the grieving process, it can be difficult to approach them and have a conversation. The questions below are just a few that may help with this. It can help their healing process if you allow them to open-up and share their feelings about their loss, grief, and loneliness.

- What do you want or need most right now?
- Are you getting out of the house?
- Can I take you somewhere?
- Tell me some of your favorite memories.
- How did you meet him/her?

One more thing to consider is that sometimes communicating with a grieving friend can be spoken louder with actions rather than words. Remember to visit them regularly long after the service. Do the dishes for them, take out the trash, bring over a yummy meal that you can share with them, or just give them a call to simply say “Hi”. As I mentioned earlier, there is no time limit on the grieving process and all too often once the formality of the funeral service and interment has long since passed, the grieving process truly has just begun.

2021 Tribute

January

Thomure, Mary Ann
Toms-Hodge, Loretta Mae
Simmons, Theryn Kay
Roller, Shirley Temple
Wilmouth, Anessia Lucille
Douthitt-Bennett, June
Underwood, Mamie LaDonna
Alsbury, Gary Eugene, Jr.
Geren, Sharon
Tedlock, Paula Dian
Dainty, Carla Sue
Creason, Shirley Jean

February

Rouse, Rhonda
Middleton, Anna Louise
Hargrove, Coleen Jeanette
Weaver, Gary
Crockett, Belinda Lea
Kirk, Jewel Maxine
Roberts, Patricia Marie
Rupert, Larry David
Lamb, Lula M

March

Robertson, Betty J
Creek, Dorothy Aline
Mantle, Nellie Jane
Shoemaker, Jesse Norton
Sullivan, Wyila Ann
Holbrook, Maureen Mary
Smith, Willie Gilbert, Jr.
Kelly, Juanita Lynne
Stoval, Frieda
Fouts, David Lee
Duffell, James Elman
Slyman, Charlotte Elaine
Henry, Richard Dean 'Corky'
Lynn, Delores Diana
Tunnell, Byron Don
Saenz, Mario C
Waybright, Kelbi Dianne

April

Huddleston, Judith Lynn
Craft, Dustin Levi Dean
Ledbetter, Luther Vance
Rogers, Claude Dennison 'Dean'
Schaller, Chauncy C
Mathews, Lee Ann
Brumley, Willie Flynn
Housh, Tom Wesley
Rickey, Joe Bob
Neal, Cleeta Marie
Dowty, Ramona Elaine
Cox, Gerald Sherman
Whiteley, Arthur S

May

Vanderham, Patricia A
DuShane, George Andrew
Waybright, Lana Lee
Dalton, Vicki
Green, Sherley May
Mirjanich, Louis Jerome
Mirjanich, Sarah Kathryn
Smith, John Owen 'J.O.'
Tune, Jean Dolores
Glover, Jayce Annette

June

Rabel, Evelyn Joy
Hollandsworth, Ellen Marie
Thetford, Jerry
Swan, Bryan Edward, Dr.
Minson, Shirley Ann
Pierce, Brenda Gail
O'Neal, Peggy Lou
Koch, Zailee Jayde
Hensley, Diane Adele
Hadley, Helen
Geary, Jeffrey Allen
Ellison, Helen Lathene
Johnson, 'Rusty' Joe Dean
Robinson, Ronald Royce
Wilson, Edward Allen

June cont....

Howard, James C
Ellis, Joe S
Ellis, Betty J
Meador, William
Meador, Bobbye
Smith, Eldon Dee
Cosby, Clinton Wendelle
Murphy, Donna
Arnold, Suzanne T
Emerick, Sharon
Morrow, Coy Dean
Graham, Gerald Lee

July

Tuthill, Nancy Marie
Gleaves, Sharon Rose
Gagliardi, Joseph Anthony, Jr.
Thompson-Walker, Weston
Keller, Sarajo
Kaylor Wilber Ray
Groaning, Beverly Sue
Lester, Valerie Lynn
Herd, 'Jerry' Ann
Haynes, Margaret June
Nehring, Linda Lou
Hawk, Betty Leota
Thomas, Betty Lou

August

Klingman, Debra Lynn
Walters, Gordon Lawton
Linn, Robert 'Bob' O
Yost, Marvin F
Wilson, Linda Kaye
Littlefield, 'Lanie'
Rogers, Judith Ann
Mead, Ronald Rex
Namestka, Hudson Dale
Reyes, John Ralph
Jamil, Debra Sue

September cont....

Harmon, Rex Raymond
Welch, Ava
Smith, Klonie Earl
Durham, Helen Louise
Berryman, Hugh Ivy
Hudson, William Boyd
McLaury, Donald Lee
Witzansky, Linda Rae
Smith Phyllis Joann
Miner, Dale Lee
Silar, Keith Sherman
Billups, Steven Del
Orcutt, Jerry G

October

Bilke, Jared Shawn
Roy, Ada Elaine
Smith, Sandra Elaine
Dickerson, Wayne Lee
Turner, Paula Stith
Oxlaj, Adaline
Vivrett, 'Jeanie' Eugenia
Boone, Korynn D'Mae
Watkins, Larry Clinton, Sr.
Jameson, Bonnie Rosemary

November

Thomasson, Gary
Vandermade, Marjorie A
Myers, Kenneth Lavaun
Stanley, Edith Rosita
Yeargain, Roberta Jane
Wilmoth, Billy Ray, Sr.

December

Hart, Wesley Gordon
Luevano, Aurelia
Francisco, Nicolas leNicolas
Vasquez, Cheryl Lynn
Heatherly, Clarence Elmer
McKibben, Robert Ray
Barr, Ronald
Rowden, Jimmie 'Nadine'





Nancy Bro
G.A.R. Cemetery, Office Mgr.



G.A.R. Cemetery... Is our History, Our Future?

Or can we turn the page and become more progressive in today's times?

I am often asked, "What are you going to do when you run out of room?" Well, fortunately that won't happen any time soon. With 86 acres and several areas of un-plotted sections, we have room to grow. However, it is something that we are working on to extend the life of our beautiful cemetery for many generations to come. Let me tell you about a few things that are already in motion and some new ideas that we have in mind.

With the growing trend of cremation, our cemetery has a lot of room to offer. Firstly, every grave here may have 2 interments if one is an inurnment. That means that Cousin Joe could be cremated, and his cremains could be placed within his father's grave space. His father will not be disinterred, only a small opening will be made in the earth within the same grave space and Cousin Joe's cremains would be placed there.

Other options are our cremation burial plots. These are smaller than the traditional grave for full casket burials, will hold 2 urns and are more cost efficient. And of course, columbarium's, which are above ground niches for urns. We have already began looking into locations for innovative columbaria installments. Another option would be having a Family Estate. Something that isn't available in our area... yet!

Our future here at G.A.R. is bright. As we concentrate on our History, Heritage and Legacy we also look to the future of how we can best serve our community in our ever changing and diverse society.

Our mission is to focus on several concerns including drainage issues, roadways, and walkways, while still supplying an area of high-end value to the public. Our goal is to provide a more rounded and diverse selection of options with room for growth and expansion all the while providing a place of tranquility for grieving and healing.

Death is forever. Cemeteries, as they currently exist, might not be.

What happens when we run out of burial space? Cities around the world are starting to get creative.

By [Bess Lovejoy](#) • September 30, 2020



In the United States, the word *cemetery* often conjures up images of a green expanse flecked with tombstones, perhaps a weeping willow and an angel statue or three. But the cemeteries designed by our ancestors now face a multitude of challenges — not least of which is that many of them, at least in urban areas, are running out of space.

Green-Wood, a sprawling, historic cemetery in Brooklyn where many of New York City’s most illustrious dead are buried, projects that it could run out of single grave spaces before the end of the decade. Arlington National Cemetery estimates that it will fill before the middle of the century. Cemeteries in Alaska, Florida, and elsewhere have all grappled with a lack of room, and sometimes had to close entirely. San Francisco long ago stopped allowing new burials, and fast-growing cities like Seattle may also soon be facing a similar squeeze.

The problem is even worse in some other parts of the world, like England. As an island, it’s got a built-in limit. A BBC survey commissioned in 2013 found that almost half of the country’s cemeteries could run out of space within the next 20 years. Meanwhile, in China, Beijing’s cemeteries have been full since 2016. In Africa, many rapidly growing cities lack the essential infrastructure to provide adequate burial spaces, too.

Theoretically, the United States still has plenty of land for the dead, but much of it is not located where people now live and die. As Americans have increasingly flocked to urban centers, land is at a premium — and those green gardens for the dead that our great-(great)-grandparents designed no longer seem efficient. Thanks to a combination of land scarcity, rising costs, and a certain creeped-out NIMBYism¹ when new burial grounds are proposed, few new cemeteries are being built. When you add in America’s “silver tsunami” as the baby boomers age, that means many cemeteries in urban areas are feeling the crunch. [Read more...](#)

<https://www.considerable.com/life/death/future-cemeteries-burial-space/>

¹ NIMBYism is mostly characterized by the disagreement to the location (near to residential localities) of the development rather than an opposition to the development itself. In fact, the residents might welcome the idea of the development as long as it was someplace else.



Nancy Bro, G.A.R. Cemetery Office Mgr. nbro@miamiokla.net
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Upcoming Events

- **Decoration Removal**
 - 1st Monday in February
02/07/2022 – Will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m.
- **Memorial Day Ceremony**
 - Monday 5/30/2022 @ 10: 30 a.m.

G.A.R. Cemetery 2022 Decoration Removal Schedule

****All Decorations placed located on the lawn
Must Be Removed from Graves By 8:00 a.m. On The Dates Listed.**

****As of January 1, 2022, all decorations hanging on the mausoleum and columbarium or setting upon upright monuments and their bases, may be left in place by the cemetery staff.**

****Cemetery Staff retains the right to remove any/all decorations at their discretion.**

DECORATION REMOVAL	DATE
First Monday in February	02/07/2022
Second Monday Following Easter	04/25/2022
First Monday Following Memorial Day	06/06/2022
First Monday in October	10/03/2022

- Wrought iron basket hangers are not permitted except for the 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.

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[RE-SELLING CEMETERY PROPERTY](#)
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On the Cover

This issue's cover photo was taken by longtime Miami resident, [Bobby Poole](#) Perhaps you have seen his beautiful works of art on facebook?!

Would you like to submit a photo for a chance to be published in one of our upcoming newsletters?

Submit your photo to:
nbro@miamiokla.net

Genealogy
 Miami Public Library
 200 N Main * Miami, OK
 Barbara Becker
geniedept@miamiokla.net
library@miamiokla.net
www.miamipl.okpls.org
918-541-2324
Staff Hours
 Mon, Wed, Thu. 10 am – 5 pm
 Tues 9 a.m. – 4 pm

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