

Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2024

3300 Woodlawn Avenue, Wayzata, MN 55391-2821 Phone: 952-847-0011

E-mail: info@grovelandcemetery.org

Website: www.grovelandcemetery.org

2024 Annual Meeting - May 18

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 18, 2024 in the Shady Oak Room at the Minnetonka Community Center at 10:00 AM. The Board of Directors and Administrator will be there to discuss the current state and future planning of the cemetery. Please bring your thoughts and questions to enhance the discussion.

Planning Your Own Funeral



S. Lindy Purdy

Our guest speaker for the 2024 Annual Meeting is S. Lindy Purdy on the topic of planning your own funeral. She currently serves as Minister Emerita at the Wayzata Community Church, where she has been on staff since 2003. Her

call to ministry is accompanying people at the end of life, and families dealing with the death of a loved one. She is currently serving the disability community and Parables worship.

Ms. Purdy is a native of the Lake Minnetonka area; growing up in Excelsior and spending her adult life in the Wayzata area. She attended Minnetonka Schools, Gustavus Adolphus College and United Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Owners of gravesites, survivors and next of kin who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to attend and vote on business that may come before the meeting. The Community Center is located just north of Minnetonka Blvd. at Wiliston Road. There is plenty of parking. Come in the entrance by the fountain. The Shady Oak room is on the upper level with an elevator available. Refreshments will be served.



Memorial Day Monday, May 27th

Our Memorial Day service will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Monday, May 27.

The guest speaker for 2024 will be Bill 'Doc' Wenmark, a veteran of the Navy and United States Marine Corps. A Vietnam Veteran of

1969-1970, Bill is a decorated combat corpsman and served as a Non-Commissioned Officer in a medical role. He later served as a medical staff aid for Vice President Hubert Humphrey.

Bill retired as CEO & Founder of his network of Urgent Care medical clinics. He currently works in the Activities Department at Minnetonka High School, is a Veteran Affairs Advisor and served eight years on the Minnetonka School Board.

We invite you, your family,



From Previous Groveland Ceremony

friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the fellowship, conversation and refreshments with everyone before and after the service. Parking is available in the Groveland School east lot. Enter the cemetery through the gate near our utility building. We are looking forward to seeing you on this special occasion. Flags will mark the graves of our approximately 350 veterans.



From the President

The New Normal

For 2024 at Groveland Cemetery, we mark a return to a more casual operation where we are able to be with each other, shake hands and say hello to our neighbors. While we can't undo the past few years that affected almost everyone, we hope that the new "normal" makes it possible to get back to some semblance of "business as usual".



Jeff Walton - President

In the last year, Groveland has done a lot to best utilize the space in the older part of the cemetery on the south end and we have opened space on the north end which was not previously usable due to agreements with the city.

Beginning in 2024, Groveland had available for sale, a total of 85 full burial plots; 107 cremation plots and 13 infant plots. Over the last five years, our sales have averaged ~28/yr. for full-size and ~12/yr. for cremation plots, so we will likely see low inventory

numbers by the time we can sell in the final section beginning in 2028. Historically, sales favor the purchase of full burial plots, but in the last six years actual burials have shown cremations are outnumbering full burials by more than 2:1. Based on those statistics, we know that the flexibility of using full burial plots for either/both a cremation or full burial and the ability to have an upright marker has continued to cause the sale of full plots to remain high. This is even after adjusting the pricing to higher levels in our three previous fiscal years. With the limited space left at Groveland, the Association will need to make decisions regarding the remaining use of space and whether that will include columbarium space or designating additional space for cremation only. Input is welcome from the association members.

Thanks for being a part of the Groveland Cemetery Family and your continuing interest in and support of Groveland Cemetery.

Jeff Walton, President



From the Administrator...

We have had another active year in the cemetery. Groveland Cemetery is continuing to enjoy a stable and well-charted course. Thank you to the Board of Directors for their wisdom and hard work providing the necessary direction.



Shelley Duoos - Administrator

The cemetery had 57 burials this fiscal year, 16 traditional casket burials and 41 cremation burials. Our fiscal year runs from May 1 to April 30. Seven more veterans have been buried this year.

Despite treating our trees and watering during the drought, we lost an elm, an ash, and a small oak tree that were taken down this winter. We planted six nanny-berry shrubs on the north end, a Redmond Linden tree in Sec. 7, a Hackberry tree in Sec. 3 and three Hazelnut bushes in Sec. 1. We continue to treat our trees and the lawn.

A portion of the graves in the north area were opened for sale after the temporary fence and some

arborvitaes were removed and the lawn seeded. I met with all the people on the waiting list. We had lot sales of 40 (27 full graves and 13 cremation graves).

Your flowers and mini-gardens looked their best ever in 2023! Thank you for beautifying Groveland and respecting our regulations.

Some reminders:

- Real flowers only are allowed, no artificial items or glass
- Watch out for and report ground bees and sunken holes



- Shepherd's hooks are not allowed. The wind can blow plants around or the mowers can knock them off. Please consider a sturdy plant stand. They can be found at local greenhouses for about \$50.

Feel free to contact me at:
Phone: 952-847-0011 or
Email: info@grovelandcemetery.org

Shelley Duoos, Administrator



Treasurer's Report

The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2023, and will end April 30, 2024. This report is being prepared before the fiscal year is complete, in order to meet the Gazette mailing schedule, so the financial results aren't final yet. The final results will be available at the annual meeting. The cemetery operates on a cash basis.

The Cemetery Board creates a budget each year, to make sure that finances stay on-track. This fiscal year, the cemetery did very well and estimates a net income of \$77,000. This is approximately \$38,000 above the budgeted income, mostly due to higher-than-expected grave sales and lower than expected expenses. Actual income will be about \$135,000, which was above budget due to significantly higher than expected demand for graves, and therefore more graves sold. Expenses were about \$60,000, which was about \$15,000 below budget, due simply to lower overall expenses than anticipated (IE, less snow means less snow plowing needed, etc.). The estimated cost of the land for the graves that were sold had a value of about \$15,000, which is also considered in the above.

While the cemetery's income is unpredictable, since grave sales and burials themselves are unpredictable, expenses are managed by the Board and the cemetery's administrator, Shelley Duoos. The bulk of the cemetery's income comes from grave sales, but other significant contributors are

burial fees and donations. Note that income from grave sales and burial fees must be offset by the costs to provide those services, such as the cost of the land for the graves, and labor such as gravediggers and official paperwork.

The cemetery invests monetary assets that aren't needed immediately, so that they can continue to grow. These assets will be needed once the cemetery's grave sites have all been sold, at which point the cemetery's income will drop. These assets are invested using the recommendations from a financial advisor, who follows guidelines set by the cemetery's board of directors. This fiscal year, the value of the cemetery's investments has grown dramatically, increasing from \$336,122 to approximately \$489,000, an increase of over \$150,000. This growth was due to prudent management by the cemetery's board and its contractors along with a general increase in the value of the investments due to stock market gains.

It is projected that the cemetery will have grave sites to sell for the next 10 to 20 years, so the cemetery can continue to have income for the near future. But since the cemetery is essentially landlocked, with no additional space for expansion of graves, and it doesn't have a perpetual care fund, expenses must be closely managed both now, and in the future when the available graves are exhausted.

Fiscal year-end detailed financial reports will be handed out at the annual meeting and are available on request.

Erik Larson, Treasurer

Are You Prepared For Death?

“If you wait until some is sick and dying, you’ve waited too long because you’re not going to get the information you need at that point.” Pat Miles, the former Twin Cities journalist and news anchor, lost her husband five years ago to cancer. They both thought everything was in order, until it wasn’t.

Pat spent months sorting everything out, when she really just wanted to grieve. She ended up writing a book about her painful experience, so other people could be more prepared. Her book, *Before All is Said and Done: Practical Advice for Living and Dying Well*, was written to help others avoid what she went through. Do you know passwords to their computers? Did you know that credit card companies will stop the card once they know the primary card holder is deceased? Even a recent trip to a warehouse club store reminded her that there are still so many things she doesn't know even after writing her book. When she went to renew her membership, which was in her late husband's name, the employee helping her commented on all the rebates that come with the card. Miles was dumbfounded. She had missed out on five years of rebates.

There are many other books and sources to help you out. One simple thing my mother did, which I have now done, is to make a one-page Crisis Information sheet

about me. It lists everything: SS#, DL#, car information, family contacts, all my medical providers and insurance card numbers, investment contacts, attorney, tax person, banks, even my blood type, all on one page.

As a culture, we don't want to deal with death, but it will happen to 100% of us. So please, plan ahead as a gift to your survivors.

- *Shelley Duos*

Consider Groveland In Your Will or Trust

Donations to Groveland Cemetery are vital and much appreciated. These funds enable the cemetery to make improvements such as landscaping. Donations can even be targeted, such as specifying that a donation be used for flowers, trees, benches, etc. Groveland Cemetery Association is a non-profit charitable organization, so donations that are made to the cemetery may be tax-deductible.

In addition to donations that could be made now, please consider adding Groveland Cemetery to your will or trust fund, in order provide support to the cemetery farther into the future.

Other giving strategies may also be available to you, such as people over the age of 70½ that would like to make a donation to the cemetery directly from their IRA could utilize a Qualified Charitable Distribution to reduce their tax burden, by donating directly from their IRA to the cemetery.

Groveland F.A.Q.'s

frequently

asked questions

We frequently get questions about different things involving the cemetery.

Did the Prices Go Up in 2024?

Each year, the Board of Trustees meets near the end of the year and our pricing is reviewed and adjusted. Some of the factors that are used include:

- Average prices in area
- Groveland available space
- Full vs Cremation Options

After adjustment over the last few years, the pricing was held at the current levels:

- Cremation Graves: \$1,100
- Full sized Graves: \$3,000
- Infant Graves: \$ 750

Is there any Limit on Monument/Memorial Sizes?

The size and type of markers are detailed in our Cemetery Rules, which are posted on our website. Of course, markers must fit within the width of the plots. In 2024, a limitation of height was added for safety purposes. The maximum allowable height, including exposed base, is 58". This limitation is for all NEW markers and does not affect the existing memorials.

Who is Responsible for Monuments After Installation?

Headstones and monuments are affected by time and upkeep to the surrounding area. While every care is taken not to disturb markers and borders, it is possible that a marker can settle or may be impacted by mowing and other cleanup that is ongoing at the cemetery. We will

notify families if we discover that there are problems. In some cases where there is no family available, we may need to mitigate a safety issue. In general, Groveland Cemetery is not responsible for any damage to markers or the concrete bases, regardless of the cause. It is up to the owners or family to provide any necessary maintenance. Please see the cemetery rules for further information.

I want to plant a tree at a family gravesite. Can I bring in my own tree and do it myself?

No, we require all trees to be planted by a professional nursery and of an acceptable type. The type and locations of trees can vary within different sections of the cemetery. All tree/shrub plantings require PRIOR approval by Groveland. Once an approval is granted for a tree of approved type, the original buyer will be responsible for the first year of maintenance and watering. The cemetery will assume responsibility after that, and will remove trees that become diseased or are a safety hazard. Groveland has a tree and shrub policy as well as a listing of approved and climate-suitable tree species which is available from the administrator.

Groveland Gazette Available by Email

This Gazette is also being emailed to Cemetery members who have requested this service. If you would like to receive your Groveland Gazette via email rather than by postal mail, we would be happy to accommodate you. You would save the cemetery the cost of postage and handling and the electronic version is in color. Please email us at:

info@grovelandcemetery.org

Include the message "Please send my Gazette by email".

We'll respond with a test copy of this Gazette, and then send future issues only by e-mail until you request us to stop or you close your email account. Receiving your Gazette by email will not remove your name from the mailing list or from our database.

New Owners

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

- Cassidy Al-Kaissy
- William C. & Eleanor S. Bathe
- Roxane & Gilbert Gehle
- Ronald D. Groat
- Paul J. Hartzell
- Timothy J. & Lynne L. Hartzell
- Richard & Mary Ann Hascall
- Ryan' Nghiem Ba Hoang
- Ronald & Laurie Horn
- Paul W. Johnson
- Annette L. Keppel
- Richard & Marjorie Licht
- Sara B. Macagnone
- David A. & Marilee V. Mahler
- Angela Marquette
- P. Michael McCarney
- Barbara R. Miller
- Timothy J. & Suzanne D. Mullen
- Rebecca Neumann
- Elizabeth Niemeier
- John & Lynn O'Neil
- Darcy J. Peterson
- Efuia Peterson
- Lonnie Peterson
- William S. Robinson
- Julieann E. Schroeder
- Darryl W. & Jane L. Sjoberg
- Ann L. Sorebo
- Mark L. Sorebo
- Nancy M. Sorebo
- Wayne B. Stone
- Carol L. Sundet-Meeker
- Sandra Sweeney
- Enid Vandeventer
- David & Brodie Wheaton
- John & Judy Winterhalter

Passings

(Alphabetical Since 5/23)

Galina Zinovievna Alakshina	92
Wallace 'Terry' Edward Belcher III	78
Kathleen Ellen Blair	73
Glen Howard Blanchard	96
Samuel Angelo Caggiano	0
Billie Francis Carter	94
Jean Adella Case	92
Richard Lee Case Sr.	90
Evelyn Charlotte Christiansen	90
Theolene Marie "Marie" Claflin	70
Joan Kay Squiers Danielson	91
Ruth Jean Decker	79
Stephen Wendell Farnes	71
Geneva Elaine Folkerts	84
Ann Marie Garavalia	80
Mingxun Han	87
LeRoy John Hart	94
Evan Jerome Hascall	36
Leslie 'Les' Elwin Hexum	83
Mary Alice Hullsiek	97
Roger Lee Huseby	85
Robert Glenn Johnson	100
Sandra 'Sandi' Dee Johnson	81
Maren Kay Kascielski	49
Thomas George Kerber	65
John 'Patrick' Low	70
Anthony Macagnone	74
Betty Caroline Mayer	86
John 'Jack' Dwight Mayer	94
Richard Gerhart Nelson	89
Andrea Lynn (Schultz) Neumann	60
Kevin Clarence Niemeier	69
Morris Robert Olson	78
Phyllis Ann Mae Olson	85
Peter Charles Onstad	80
William Archie Palm	91
Mark Alan Peters	62
Nancy Lee (Duemke) Peterson	77
Stephen Richard Peterson	66
Debra Lynn Robbins	71
Elizabeth Anne Sackrison	95
Denise Adele Schorr	68
Eilene Ruby Shadler	92
Mary Helen Sonderup	86
Edwin Carl Sorebo	95
Deborah Kay (Peters) Stephens	63
Gloryanne Spellman Stone	84
Alice Lorraine Swanson	94
Lester Jerome Swenson	84
Clarice Annette Thimsen	84
Virginia Mae Thimsen	97
William Charles Thimsen	55
Quynh-Huong Thi 'Christine' Tran	51
Daniel Darvig Vieburg	61
Darvig Allen Vieburg	91
Thomas Thaddeus Warner	56
Dorothy Ann Welch	86
Marjorie Virginia Yaeger	96

Average: 78.4 Years



Other Resources for Groveland Cemetery Information:

Are you looking for information about Groveland Cemetery on the Internet? Try these sites:

<https://www.grovelandcemetery.org>

This is the official site for information on Groveland Cemetery. It includes information of available gravesites, pricing, cemetery maps, and rules and regulations. Also, a list of all people buried, information on cemetery events, newsletters, contact information for the Cemetery Administrator and the Board of Directors, Mission, History and more.

www.facebook.com/Groveland1871

To get to the Groveland Cemetery Facebook page go to this site and then click on the search box with the magnifying glass in it in the upper left corner, type in the word Groveland, and select Groveland Cemetery Minnetonka. This site contains pictures of the cemetery and events that have occurred there through the last several years.



<https://www.findagrave.com>

Search here for pictures of grave markers and biographical information from more than 570,000 cemeteries in 250 countries. All pictures and information are contributed by volunteers. There is a search box to enter cemetery names. Enter Groveland Cemetery Minnetonka, Minn., and a list will come up of all the markers photographed in our cemetery, currently 84% of the ~2,493 markers here. If a marker in our

cemetery is not included you can take a photo of it and submit it to be added. You can also look up a name or only a last name and find any person in the world with that name if they have been added to the data list. It's an interesting and enjoyable site to explore.

Board Elections

Your trustees' two-year terms will expire with this year's annual meeting.

Running for re-election are:

- Joe Dzurik
- Robert Nash
- Lois Kamerud
- Mark Peterson

We currently have eight members on the board, and by-laws provide that the board can consist of five to eight members. We occasionally have open positions. Please let us know if you are interested in serving when an opening becomes available.

I got fired from my job because I kept asking customers whether they would prefer "smoking" or "non-smoking".

Apparently at the cemetery, the correct terms are "Cremation" and "Burial"



Board of Directors

President:

Jeff H. Walton,
952-943-2064

Vice President:

Dennis F. Cerkenik,
952-463-0073

Treasurer:

Erik Larson,
952-475-2471

Secretary:

Mary Tullbane,
952-250-1647

Trustee:

Joseph W. Dzurik,
763-688-5680

Trustee:

Robert F. Nash,
952-476-0434

Trustee:

Lois Kamerud,
313-300-9814

Trustee:

Mark Peterson,
612-990-0428

Groveland Staff

Administrator:

Shelley Duoos,
952-847-0011

Caretaker:

Ronald Horn,
612-859-3066

Groveland Cemetery is home to 2,649 souls and 346 are Veterans of Military Service dating back to the Civil War

VOLUNTARY DONATION / CONTRIBUTION FORM



YOUR NAME: _____


YOUR ADDRESS: _____

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS: (optional) _____

Groveland Cemetery Association is a volunteer and non-profit organization. In order to help with the maintenance of the Cemetery grounds, we would like to make a voluntary contribution to be used to improve and maintain the conditions in the cemetery:

AMOUNT: _____

Please mail this form and your check payable to the Groveland Cemetery Association to:

	<p>Groveland Cemetery Association 3300 Woodlawn Avenue Wayzata, MN 55391-2821 <i>Attn: Erik Larson, Treasurer</i></p>
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Any amount will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!
Your Cemetery Board





Groveland Cemetery Association
3300 Woodlawn Avenue
Wayzata, MN 55391-2821

Address Service Requested

Groveland Cemetery Association

3300 Woodlawn Avenue
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Phone: 952-847-0011

