

Groveland Cemetery Gazette

May 2025

3300 Woodlawn Avenue, Wayzata, MN 55391-2821 Phone: 952-847-0011
E-mail: info@grovelandcemetery.org Website: www.grovelandcemetery.org

2025 Annual Meeting - May 17

The Groveland Cemetery Association annual meeting will be held Saturday, May 17, 2025 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.

For 2025, we will forego the usual guest speaker and will feature a presentation and discussion of Groveland's plans for constructing a columbarium along with a plaza and garden walkway between Sections 7 & 8.

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 Williston 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 26th

The Memorial Day service at Groveland will be observed beginning with the flag ceremony by American Legion Post 259 at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Monday, May 26.

Our speaker for the event is Gary Marquardt, State Director, Bugles Across America. Expecting to be drafted and go to Vietnam in 1969, Gary Marquardt got married the same day he graduated from college. His father and his wife's father both fought through Western Europe in the U.S Army in WWII.

Fast forward 45 years and you'll find him serving as State Director for Bugles Across America, a non-profit of over 4000 volunteers performing LIVE Taps at the honors ceremonies for veterans all across the country. Gary will speak of his journey from a NON-HORN PLAYER at age 65 where in 2014, after attending the funeral services of a good friend's WWII Vet father, saw a recording of Taps at his ceremony and searched for answers to why this final Honor wasn't being provided to all Veterans.

Gary has lived in the Minnetonka area (over 39 years on Casco Point) And began learning to play the Bugle/Trumpet and practicing over Spring Park Bay every night at sunset.

We invite you, your family, 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

Welcome to 2025



Groveland Cemetery is 154 years old this year and imagine what folks were thinking when the cemetery was founded. At the

time, Minnesota had only been a State for 13 years. Minnetonka would take another 97 years before it was incorporated into the city that we know today.

Little did they know that Groveland would be surrounded by schools, parks, roads and neighborhoods. Meanwhile, Groveland Cemetery has become a resting place for more than 2,600 souls and continues to serve the needs of our families.

The winds of change are strong for Groveland as we see our options for continued burials impacted by not only the space constraints but also by how we place our loved ones to rest. As we face the limits of our usable space, we have been exploring the trends of burials and how to best use the space we have left. While it

would be nice to have a large tract of land available, the reality is that our expansion opportunities are limited. Not impossible, but not likely. As we have seen a 2:1 shift to cremation burials as the dominant method of burial, we have been considering how to best use the remaining space. At this year's Annual Membership Meeting, we will be presenting preliminary plans for construction of a Columbarium Garden in the north part of the cemetery. This is one of the more significant undertakings in the recent history of the cemetery since the last expansion in 2008. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and provide feedback. Over the course of 2025, we will be working with the formalities of zoning and planning and our best estimate is that we would be looking at later in 2026 to complete this project.

As our space options have continued to dwindle, we have adjusted our prices effective in 2025 to encourage the best use of the space. We have researched the prevailing rates for cemeteries around the Twin Cities area and have based our pricing on options that make sense for optimizing our space and financial position.

As part of our planning, we have also updated the cemetery maps. We also learned that there is an additional city storm sewer easement under our north driveway, which played a role in determining the location of columbarium options. The city is planning to upgrade their utilities and we expect that there will be work going through Groveland as part of the city 2025 improvements.

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.

The cemetery had 47 burials this fiscal year, 18 (38%) traditional casket burials and 29 (62%) cremation burials. Our fiscal year runs from May 1 to April 30. Seven more veterans have been buried this year. We had lot sales of 43 (29 full graves and 14 cremation graves).

Trees continue to be an issue, requiring expensive treatment and removal. We lost 3 large old oaks in Sec. 2. We plan to plant new trees in that area this summer. We have a new company lined up for lawn fertilization in 2025 and we should see a big improvement in the health of the grass by 2026.

If anyone would like to be a future speaker at Memorial Day, we would welcome your participation. Or perhaps, you know of someone who would be willing to be our speaker.



Thank you for beautifying Groveland with your flowers and respecting our regulations.

Shelley Duoos, Administrator

Calling all gardeners!

We could really use some gardening help right now in May before Memorial Day to clean up the entrance landscaping and butterfly garden. New annuals will be provided to plant in various containers around the cemetery and in the butterfly garden. Please call or email me if you can volunteer a few hours. Help in October would also be welcome.

Feel free to contact me at:
Phone: 952-847-0011 or

Email: info@grovelandcemetery.org



Treasurer's Report



It seems unusual to talk about cemeteries and money together, because to me it seems like they don't really go together. I think of

a cemetery as a solemn place, where people's loved ones can be memorialized, basically forever. But money seems more like an immediate thing, somewhat the opposite of "forever". It's also odd for me to think of a cemetery in terms of income and expenses. A cemetery isn't like most businesses, because it doesn't have the option to change products, locations, or "close the doors". Groveland Cemetery Association

is setup as a non-profit organization, so we're not trying to make a "profit". Instead, we're trying to manage the income and expenses so that the cemetery can last forever (or at least as long as possible), while also keeping it in a condition befitting the people memorialized there, now & in the future. We are working to best manage finances in order to keep the cemetery looking nice now, and to be able to provide for care long after we're no longer around.

The Groveland Cemetery fiscal year began May 1, 2024, and will end April 30, 2025. This report is being prepared before the fiscal year is complete, in order to meet the Gazette mailing schedule, so the financials for the entire fiscal year are preliminary. The final results will be available at the annual membership meeting.

This fiscal year, the cemetery did very well and estimates that our income will be greater than our expenses by approximately \$70,000. This is approximately \$34,000 above its budgeted net income, mostly due to higher than expected sales. Total income will be about \$160,000, which was above budget due to demand for graves. Expenses will end up being about \$90,000, which is close to the budgeted amount. The estimated cost of the graves that were sold was about \$16,000, which is also considered in the above.

The cemetery invests its 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 the financial advisors at 360 Financial in Wayzata, who follow the general investment guidelines set by the cemetery's board. This fiscal year, the value of the cemetery's investments has grown dramatically, increasing from

\$490,000 to approximately \$570,000. But stock market volatility cuts both ways, so expect a significant change if the April stock market trends continue.

At the rate that grave sites have been selling in the past few years, it's projected that the cemetery will have grave sites to sell for approximately the next 10 years. So, the cemetery can expect to have income for the near future. But since the cemetery is essentially land-locked, without additional space for expansion of graves, and we don't have a perpetual care fund, expenses must be closely managed, now and in the future when the available graves are exhausted.

Detailed financial reports for the end of this fiscal year (ending April 30, 2025) will be distributed at the cemetery's annual member meeting, and are also available on request.

Erik Larson, Treasurer

Pam Johnson Joins Cemetery Board

Hello! My name is Pam (Huberty) Johnson and I am the newest Board Member of the Groveland Cemetery Association. I am a proud life-long resident of Minnetonka. I attended Groveland Elementary, spent countless hours sledding, skating, playing kick ball, and swinging on the playground equipment at Gro-Tonka park. My husband, Bernie and I have been married for nearly 40 years, and are thankful that our two sons were also able to grow up in this beautiful, safe and thriving community.

Groveland Cemetery has always been a central landmark in my neighborhood. I could always feel the sacred energy and rich history of the cemetery as I passed by over the years. When choosing a



Pam Johnson

heavenly home for my sister who passed away in 2024, Groveland Cemetery was the obvious choice. My sister's marker is placed perfectly for visitors to look out over the park where families are gathered. When my time comes, I will be right beside her.

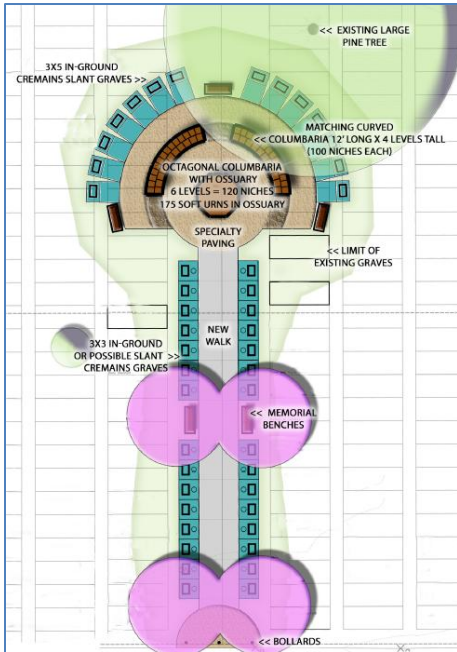
When looking for ways to serve our community, I learned of this opportunity. When I met the board members it too became an obvious choice. I am excited to serve on Board of Directors to fulfill Groveland Cemetery's mission of meeting families' final needs with compassion and dignity, and providing memorialization in a place of beauty and solace that serves all.

Creating a Cremation Garden in Groveland Cemetery

The cemetery has limited land space, and the amount of current cremation grave space will sell out in 5+ years. The question is how to use the land we have left to provide for future cremation space.

The Board formed a planning committee last summer to identify a plan to add more cremation graves. A cemetery planner was hired, several locations were evaluated, and the location selected was the future driveway (currently

grass) between sections 7&8. This location was selected because it was central and was amenable to an attractive design. A number of design options were evaluated, and the result was the creation of a Cremation Garden Concept.



(Full-Sized display at the May Annual Meeting)

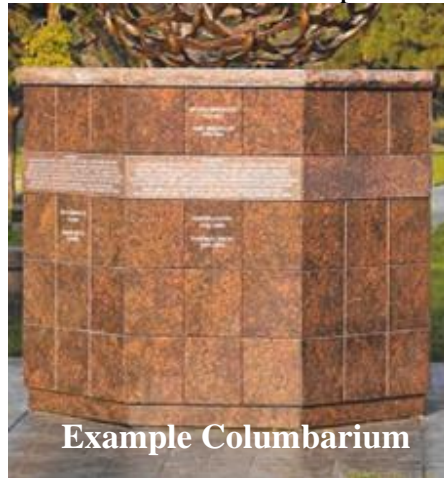
This cremation garden concept has a landscaped walkway leading to 3 granite columbariums with nearby granite memorial benches. The walkway also contains cremation markers, benches and trees. The columbariums are attractive structures that provide many cremation spaces (called niches) but use a small land area. Each niche holds 2 cremation urns, and the names of the deceased are etched on the niche door.

The current plan is to start with one octagonal columbarium, and when that is almost sold out, to add two curved wall style columbariums. These structures should provide cremation graves for many years to come.

The financials of the investment were studied and found to provide a positive return for the cemetery. The price of a niche would be at or below the cost of current

cremation grave total burial costs. Since the location uses a planned roadway, a location for an unpaved temporary roadway at the north end of the cemetery was identified if it is needed.

How should this plan be



communicated to current grave owners for their input? This article in the Gazette as well as a presentation at the annual meeting in May are methods to communicate with current grave owners to get input on the concept and design. Other methods may also be used.

The City of Minnetonka must also approve the design conditional use permit. After all the approvals are completed, the octagonal columbarium and walkway would be installed in 2026. If you have comments or questions about this cremation garden concept, please contact the Board through info@grovelandcemetery.org

Joe Dzurik – Trustee

Groveland F.A.Q.'s
frequently
asked questions

We frequently get questions about different things involving the cemetery.

Did the Prices Go Up in 2025?

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

Adjustments were made to our pricing effective January 1, 2025:

- Cremation Graves: \$1,300
- Full sized Graves: \$3,400
- Infant Graves: \$ 750

Why is there an additional charge for “opening” the plot for each burial? Didn’t the original payment cover this?

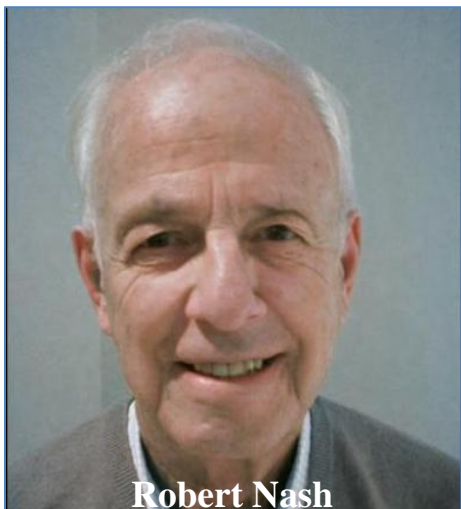
The original purchase grants the individual or family the right to burial in the location selected. The fees for opening/closing are charged for recording the placement, physical earthwork and long-term maintenance. Burial fees are collected at the time of burial and are not pre-paid.

Groveland is a nonprofit organization and our mission includes current and long-term upkeep of the final resting places.



Robert Nash Retires

Groveland Cemetery thanks Robert Nash for 21 years of dedicated volunteer service to our Association.



Robert Nash

Bob Nash dedicated a significant portion of his life to the Groveland Cemetery Board of Directors, joining in 2003. His leadership qualities quickly became apparent, leading to his election as President in 2008. During his presidency, the board successfully acquired the Cannon property, which now comprises Sections 7 and 8 of the cemetery. His tenure also saw the departure of longtime Caretaker Art Nichol and the subsequent hiring of Shelley Duoos as the Cemetery Administrator. Although he stepped down as President in 2013, Bob remained an active and valuable member of the board, eventually serving as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Beyond his commitment to the cemetery, Bob Nash had a notable professional background as a long-time Executive and Board member of the Nash-Finch Company, a business with deep family roots tracing back to an 1880s grocery store founded by his grandfather.

New Owners

Welcome to new owners since the last newsletter:

David H & Priscilla Anderson
 Leonard A & Maeve C Auer
 Merlyn & Dolores Baumer
 David Bieker
 Marvin & Linda Bimberg
 Matthew & Emily Boos
 Thomas 'Tim' E Comer
 Marion & David Erdmann
 Barbara Thatcher James
 Robbin S Johnson
 Pamela & Bernard Johnson
 Danielle Jones
 Leonardus Loos
 Lorelei & Monte Lovig
 Sandra M Majhor
 William & Faith Majhor
 Pamela & Michael Mullen
 Michael Mullen
 Jessica Mullen
 Mary Mullen
 Joseph D Peppard
 Efua Peterson
 Barbara E & Stephen W Rains
 Thomas R Richards
 Heidi Schneider
 Geoffrey K Senn
 Harvey T & Marjorie E Sterriker
 Douglas Swanson
 Jay & Diane Wissink
 Steve & Marcella Wold
 Jeremy J Zediker
 Yakov Zykov

Passings

(Alphabetical Since 5/23)

Eva L. Aanenson 99
 Adnan A. Karim Al-Kaisy 89
 Bruce L Barnheiser 88
 Julia A. Barnheiser 88
 Joshua E. Bieker 33
 Ainsley H. Boos 0
 Warren N. Caldwell 90
 Robert S. Chase 94
 Jessica L. Comer 38
 Darlene M. Finnamore 78
 Michael R. Gay 60
 Roxane T. Gehle 68
 Jennifer L. Groat 68
 Barbara J. Hanson 90
 Fred E. Hanus 87

Darrell R. Johnson 73
 Stephen W. Johnson 75
 Lyndon M. Johnson 68
 Sandra D. Johnson 81
 Brian T. Jones 51
 Shirlee J. Larson 67
 Warren F. Macheledt 76
 Robert C. Mejia 55
 Jean R. Mickelson 96
 Ray E. Miller 86
 Richard G. Nelson 89
 Carol A. Palmer 89
 Dale R. Palmer 90
 Colleen M. Peppard 74
 Corinne W. Peterson 93
 Gary R. Peterson 61
 Brenda L. Richards 60
 Sylvia J. Rick 96
 Wendy J. Robbins 60
 George S. Rye 90
 Beverly J. Schultz 96
 Geoffrey W. Senn 45
 Dolores A. Smith 100
 Mary H. Sonderup 86
 Candace M. Swanson 68
 Lionel G. Thatcher 94
 Patricia K. Thompson 93
 Sandra J. Van Orden 77
 Dennis J. Van Orden 73
 Eugene T. Welch 85
 Marcella M. Wold 80
 Fern A. Zdrazil 92
 Donald E. Zdrazil 90
 Kathryn C. Zediker 42

Average: 75.9 Years



Board Elections

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

Running for re-election are:

- Joe Dzurik
- Pam Johnson
- 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.

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. The electronic version is also 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.



www.facebook.com/Groveland1871

Consider Groveland Cemetery in your Will or Trust

We appreciate all donations and use the funds to beautify our cemetery. Since we have no perpetual care fund, we rely on donations to add to the income received from other sources.

Please consider adding Groveland Cemetery in your will or trust fund as a way to ensure the cemetery will remain attractive in years to come. We are a not-for-profit Cemetery Association so your donation may be tax-deductible.

GROVELAND CEMETERY

Established March 15, 1871

952-847-0011

www.grovelandcemetery.org

Cemetery Facts and Figures

- ♦ There are 2,709 people buried in Groveland Cemetery, 51.5% are male, 48.5% are female. Avg age: ~71
- ♦ 563 of the burials were cremation.
- ♦ Currently: 54 full size; 90 cremation and 11 infant graves are available to sell.
- ♦ In the past year we buried 47 people: 29 were cremation burials.
- ♦ This F.Y. sales: (29) full sized & (14) cremation graves. Total (43)
- ♦ The average age of interments during the last fiscal year was 75.9.
- ♦ We have ~1,175 current owners in our cemetery address list.
- ♦ Last year, we sent out 510 Gazettes by US Mail and another 518 by Email.

(Please keep us updated with your current address).

Board of Directors

President:

Jeff H. Walton,
952-943-2064

Vice President:

Dennis F. Cerkvenik,
952-463-0073

Treasurer:

Erik Larson,
952-475-2471

Secretary:

Mary Tullbane,
952-250-1647

Trustee:

Joseph W. Dzurik,
763-688-5680

Trustee:

Pam Johnson,
763-458-4617

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 2,709 souls and 353 (13%) 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
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391-2821
Phone: 952-847-0011

