

# WILLS CEMETERY

rev. 5-1-21

## FOUNDED 1868

Welcome to the Wills Cemetery. The Directors hope our visitors find everything satisfactory during their visit this Memorial Day weekend.

Please utilize the website: [www.willscemetery.com](http://www.willscemetery.com) The website contains a history of the Cemetery, policies, as well as previous newsletters and other pertinent information. A photo gallery is posted on the website, with pictures of the Cemetery and aerial views. You may also search for a specific gravesite by name through the Directory on the website. This Website has been revised to be more user-friendly in recent months.

In addition to the website, a Directory is available at the Cemetery. To find a grave for someone buried in the Wills Cemetery, simply go to the Directory which is located in the information kiosk, then look up the name in the alphabetical list. Beside the name will be a Section letter (A thru M). Finally use the map and letter signs to locate the Section. The Directory and lettered grid are aimed at helping visitors navigate the Wills Cemetery.

***The Wills Cemetery will sponsor a new event this year on Monday, May 31, inviting everyone to visit the Cemetery for a Patriotic Ceremony, starting at 7:00 p.m. to be held at the Veterans Memorial area. The Ceremony will end with the traditional playing of "Taps." Plan to attend and honor the veterans buried at the Cemetery.***

**Also please note the placement of small American flags on each veteran's grave. We appreciate and thank Judy and Jim Clark for their dedication and efforts to accomplish this project every year.**

As maintenance costs continue to increase, the Board voted in January, 2020 to **increase the cost of a gravesite to \$650. This increase went into effect on March 1, 2020.**

**A "marking" fee of \$100 has also been established.** After a funeral home or family notifies the Wills Cemetery regarding a pending burial, the Cemetery will invoice the funeral home or family, whichever is responsible for the burial, for a "marking" fee of \$100, effective March 1, 2020. This "marking" fee will reimburse the Association for work associated with the official locating of the gravesite, as well as the official locating of the monument, which may be placed at a later date.

**Please note: new policy re: flowers and miscellaneous items on gravesites:**

Shepherd hooks are allowed within 6 inches of the monument.

Small trinkets and objects that are loose, ornamental, ceramic, etc. are not allowed and will be removed.

Flowers must be on shepherd hooks or in vases that are permanently mounted to the monument.

Many decorative items are discovered each week, blown by wind and storms during the non-mowing season, to far corners of the Cemetery, not near the intended location. There is no way to know where these items came from, so they are discarded, and the gravesites are left undecorated. Please try to use extra materials, such as foam pieces, to wedge the flower stems in the vases or secure firmly any items on top of headstones. Do not lay items loose on the ground, as they will also blow away. All these wayward decorations later become hazards for mowing.

The Cemetery has embarked on a new project in 2020, with help from the Freeman Monument Company, to place small stones on graves currently without any permanent markers. This project will continue for some time, as there are many graves lacking some type of visible marker. The Cemetery has records of burials, and wishes to have as many as possible of these graves identified with a permanent stone, engraved with name and dates. The Board appreciates the support and assistance of the Freeman Monument Company with this project.

Volunteers are the difference that enables the Board to control expenses. Maintenance and improvements of the Cemetery are expensive and therefore tax-deductible contributions would be greatly appreciated, as well as suggestions and comments. Please send to: Wills Cemetery, P.O. Box 84, Peculiar, MO 64078

Please remember that the decorative items placed on the ground for Memorial Day can remain for 2 weeks. After that time the items not removed will be discarded so mowing and maintenance can resume.

We encourage supporters of the Cemetery to purchase memorial bricks for \$30.00 each in memory of their loved ones, to be added to the Memorial Plaza. There is no requirement that a loved one be buried at Wills Cemetery. Forms are available at the Informational Kiosk.

In 2020, there were 18 burials and 18 lots sold. In 2021, as of May 1, 15 lots have been sold.

#### **Financial Report -2020**

Donations:	\$ 7,359.00
Lot Sales:	10,800.00
Interest Earned:	3,526.78
Expenses:	-14,015.62

#### **Wills Cemetery Board revised 5.1.21**

<b>Larry Dobson, President</b>	<b>816-331-2888</b>
<b>Kenny Carter, Vice President</b>	<b>816-588-2910</b>
<b>Kate Krabiel, Secretary &amp; Treasurer</b>	<b>816-830-3555</b>
<b>Kathy Carter, Historian</b>	<b>816-729-6689</b>
<b>Jim Clark, member</b>	<b>816-779-6235</b>
<b>Judy Clark, member</b>	<b>816-779-6235</b>
<b>John C. "Jack" Reid, member</b>	<b>816-779-6889</b>
<b>Gary Krabiel, member</b>	<b>816-215-3421</b>
<b>Steve Yocum, member</b>	<b>816-769-5989</b>
<b>Scott Dobson, member</b>	<b>816-935-1373</b>
<b>Brandon Barber, member</b>	<b>816-405-0948</b>