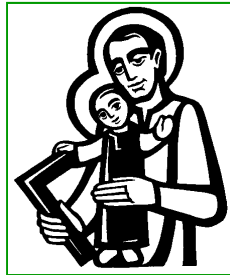


ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CEMETERY

Serving the Catholic Community
of Evansville since 1841
May 2007



CELEBRATING MEMORIAL DAY

*Fr. Gene Schroeder
President*

St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

Many people associate Memorial Day as the beginning of summer, or the day of the Indy 500 Race, but the true origins of Memorial Day have a much more profound meaning.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day set aside each year to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country. Its origins can be traced back to Civil War days when different groups in both the North and South decorated graves of soldiers who had died.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. After World War I this holiday was changed from honoring

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just those who died in the Civil War to **Memorial Day (cont.)** honoring Americans who died fighting in any way.

Among the more than thirty-five thousand people who are buried in St. Joseph Cemetery are men and women who have served our country from the times of the Civil War, through the present day. It is appropriate that on Memorial Day, we take time to remember, and to give thanks for their service. We invite you to come and join us on Monday, May 28th at 10 am for our Memorial Day Prayer Service. We will gather to pray for the gift these people have been in our lives. I hope you will be able to join us.

PRAYER FOR OUR DECEASED VETERANS

Go, faithful friends,
your life has found its ending:
to dust returns your weary mortal frame.
God, who before birth called you into being
now calls you hence,
his accent still the same

Go, faithful friends,
your life in Christ is buried
for you he lived and died and rose again
Close by his side
your promised place is waiting
where fully known
you shall with God remain

Go, faithful friends,
forgive us if we grieve you;
safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.
Your lives have touched us,
that is why we mourn you;
our lives without you
cannot be the same

Go, faithful friends,
we do not grudge you glory;
sing, sing with joy deep praises to your Lord.
You who believed that Christ
would come back for you,
now celebrate that Jesus keeps his word.

Words by John Bell



**St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery
invites you to join in
remembering those who have
served our country at our**

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER SERVICE

Monday, May 28th 10 am in the Mausoleum Chapel



THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE VOICES ON THE PHONE

Larry Strawn—Superintendent

The telephone rings at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. It will more than likely be answered by Bob Springer. Bob has been with the cemetery for over 11 years now as the office manager. Before that, Bob worked for the cemetery as a groundskeeper from 1978 thru 1981. Bob is familiar with all aspects of the cemetery.

Bob graduated from Reitz High School, so he is a true “West Sider”. He worked at the Westside drive-in theatre as his first job. Since then, he has worked at the Evansville Courier and Press, Hardee’s and Golden Tower Apartments. Bob is now committed to working at St. Joe Cemetery. With the computerized mapping system and cemetery records we have, Bob can find, within minutes, information about anyone buried in the cemetery as well as printing a map showing the exact route from the office to the grave. Bob has many inquiries every week from people doing genealogy work. He does have many notes and facts recorded about the people buried at St. Joe and is a big help with tracing family history.

I am now in my ninth year as the Superintendent of St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. I came from a background of accounting and funeral home work. I have been associated with Boone Funeral Home since my arrival in Evansville in 1964. I lived at the funeral home for 4 years while attending college from 1964-1968. After my wife, Mary Ann, and I were married, we continued to live at the funeral home for a short time. While there we helped the funeral directors when Mr. and Mrs. Boone were



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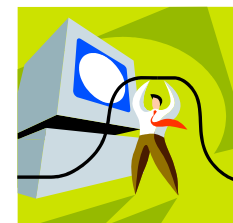
on vacation or had to leave town **The Person Behind the Voice on the Phone (cont.)** for some reason. This continued until they sold the funeral home and Mr. Boone died.

I worked at Schroeder Wholesale, Inc. for 25 years as the bookkeeper/treasurer. Mr. Schroeder died and the business was sold. I moved on to work as the bookkeeper for Schroeder Vending Company, Inc. I was there for over 6 years and then started my own business which I had for 3 years. I then worked at Baylor Heating and Air, Inc. for 2 years. My last job before coming to St. Joe was as controller for the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA). I was there for 2 years before Fr. Schroeder called me to apply for the job as Superintendent at St. Joe. I have enjoyed my nine years here at St. Joe. I have seen a new mausoleum built, two new sections cleared and opened for ground burials and the Garden of the Lambs section established. It is the most visited section in our cemetery.

I assist people with genealogy requests, sales of lots, crypts, niches and any other questions they may have. I am also responsible for the general operation of our cemetery.

Bob and I enjoy our work very much and we are happy to be able to assist you in any way that we can. Catholic Cemeteries, far from being morbid or depressing places are really all about life—eternal life. As Catholics we believe that Jesus destroys death and promises us all eternal life with him in heaven. St. Joseph Cemetery stands as a visible reminder of this great promise of our faith. Bob and I feel very privileged to work with people in helping to maintain a dignified place for their deceased loved ones

We're on the web!
Check us out
www.stjoecemetery.org

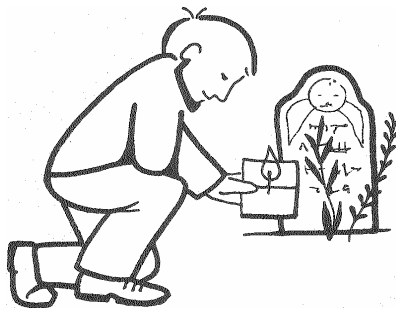


ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CEMETERY OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday 7:30 am 12 noon and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm
Saturday: 7:30am to 12:00 noon
The cemetery grounds are open daily
SUMMER: 6:30 am to dusk
WINTER: 6:30 am to 5:00 pm

MAINTAINING THE BEAUTY OF OUR CEMETERY

It was a great story. The family gathered to remember one of the favorite aunts in the family and they all shared stories about her life. One of the things they all remembered was that this aunt took upon herself the special responsibility of making sure the graves of all the deceased members of the family were decorated with flowers. One of the younger nephews found this very interesting because this aunt was a woman of very meager means. "How did she managed to pay for all the flowers?" That was not a problem, he was told. She simply went to all the graves in the cemetery that had floral arrangements and took a few flowers from each of them which she then used to decorate the graves of her family members!

While we might admire the ingenuity and dedication of this lady, we may have a little difficulty with the means she used to complete her task! The story does speak to our efforts to balance the needs of individual lot owners to honor their loved ones and our overall need to maintain the cemetery grounds as a dignified and holy place.



Decorating graves with fresh cut flowers is always welcomed at St. Joseph Cemetery. It's a wonderful way to honor our loved ones. Most all monuments and tombstones now come with in-ground vases as well as attached vases that can be used for floral arrangements. We invite people to place flowers on the graves in

this manner throughout the year.

Through the years, people have wanted to place all kinds of other remembrance items on the grave. Some of these include such things such as whirly jigs, wind tunnels, balloons, wooden signs, and stone placards. One of the more unique items we have found placed next to a gravesite was a six pack of beer that some friends left for their buddy along with a radio tuned to his favorite station. While we can appreciate the sentiment behind these gestures, we also want to keep the cemetery a very dignified place. Because of this we have not allowed people to place these kinds of things on the

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Maintaining the Beauty of our Cemetery (cont.)

graves of their loved ones. We also ask that you not hang objects from the limbs of the trees or tie them to the monuments and/or tombstones.

In recent years, another thing that has become popular are shepherds crooks. We have tried to be sensitive to people's desire to use these things, and within reason, are allowing people to install a shepherds crook. We do ask that shepherds crooks be no higher than 36" and be planted right next to the monument or tombstone. When they are higher than 36 inches, they become a hazard to our mowing crews.

During the mowing season, (April through October) no decorations are allowed to be placed on the ground. We also ask that all potted plants, all breakable objects, wooden crosses, metal crosses, and any other items that are stuck in the ground be removed. This will allow our mowing crews to safely keep the grass mowed and trimmed.

Please know that we make every effort to protect the decorations you put on the graves of your loved ones. Unfortunately, we cannot be responsible for items which are lost or damaged. We take great pride in keeping our cemetery grounds neatly mowed, trimmed and orderly. Thank you

AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT THAT BENEFITS ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY

Dustin Botzum has joined a long list of distinguished men who have attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Among this group are Sen. Richard Lugar, Former President Gerald Ford and Astronaut Jim Lovell. The Eagle Scout award is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. Not every boy who joins a Boy Scout troop earns the Eagle Scout rank; only about 5 percent of all Boy Scouts do so.

Dustin has been a member of Scout Troop #374 since the first grade and worked his way up through the scout rankings. To achieve the rank of Eagle Scout, a scout chooses a community service project



and is then responsible for bringing **Eagle Scout Project (cont.)** this project to completion. Dustin chose to do an expansion of the Garden of the Lambs section of our cemetery for his Eagle Scout project. "I have a baby sister entombed at St. Joseph and my family has grave plots there. My Mom and Dad will be buried there and I thought if I do this project, then there will be a section that I did that will be there forever. When I or my family visit the cemetery, they will see what I did and they will remember," he said.

Making this project a reality involved drawing up the landscape plans and getting estimates for the cost of plants, trees and other materials that would be needed. He presented this initially to the local Boy Scout Board for their approval and then to the Board of Directors of St. Joseph Cemetery.

The most challenging part of this project for Dustin was raising the funds needed to complete the project. "I had to approach a lot of people and businesses asking them for money. It was tough asking people for the money and I had to present the project to them also so they could decide if they believed it was worthwhile to donate the money for me," he said.



Once all the money was raised and all the materials were purchased, Dustin had to supervise the actual work. "It was quite a challenge to get folks to work on the days I needed them. Everyone had other things that interfered with the dates I had planned to work. But in the end everything worked out just fine," he said.

As Dustin wrote to all those who helped him in this project, "...please remember in your thoughts and prayers not only the people who have lost loved ones, but the little lambs themselves. As I travel through life, may I, in turn, pass on to others the lesson of nobleness you have taught me. Congratulations, Dustin on a job well done.

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