

THE GREENWOOD CEMETERY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR CORPORATE BOARD MEMBERS

Corporate Board Member Passes Away

Greenwood Cemetery recently lost corporate board member Richard (Rick) Wilson.

Richard Dean Wilson, 71, Indiana, passed away Friday, September 20th, 2024, while at Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburgh.

The son of James and Katherine (McCoy) Wilson, he was born February 14, 1953, in Indiana, PA.

Richard had been employed for 18 years as a miner and also by CSX Railroad, from where he retired as a foreman.

Mr. Wilson had also served for 25 years in the United States Army.

In his spare time, Richard enjoyed tinkering in his garage and was known to enjoy riding motorcycles and was an individual who loved to help people.

During his life, he volunteered as a scout master and was a great friend to many. He will be remembered as an awesome and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Surviving is his wife, Teresa (Hilty) Wilson, Indiana; children, Robert (Angel) Wilson, Indiana, Shawn (Melissa) Wilson, Shelocta, and Reann Wilson, Indiana; multiples siblings; 4 granddaughters, 2 grandsons, and 8 great-grandchildren.



Richard D. Wilson 1953-2024

Preceding Richard in death were his parents and multiple brothers and sisters.

A funeral service was held on Thursday September 26, 2024 at the John A. Lefdahl Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Gordan Wells officiating. Interment was in the Greenwood Cemetery with military rites provided by VFW Post 1989. Rick is buried in Section Five Lot 58-D near his parents, some siblings, and other relatives.

The Greenwood Cemetery board appreciates Rick's dedication to the cemetery and offers condolences to his family at this difficult time.

Some obituary information courtesy of: www.lefdahlfuneralhome.com and was approved for publication by the funeral home and the family.

Urn Vaults Offered as an Option for Cremations

Greenwood Cemetery does not require vaults for cremations at this time. However, to meet the needs of family members who have asked, we now offer urn vaults from Crowne Vault.

Each vault includes permanent adhesive and protects the urn from many kinds of damage. Since they are in stock at the cemetery office, they are available pre-need or at the time of interment. These vaults can be personalized in many ways. For example, there is room to add photos, letters, and other special items of importance alongside an urn or container from the crematory.

Current prices for the Crowne urn vaults are:

Coronet – fits one standard-sized crematory container. Cost: \$80

Regent – fits one standard-sized urn or two crematory containers. Cost: \$120

Marquis – fits one over-sized urn or two standard-sized urns. Cost: \$160

These vaults cannot be used in a columbarium niche; they are designed for in-ground use only. For specific measurements and more information, call the cemetery office or stop in to see them on display during regular business hours.



Pictured is the Marquis Crowne urn vault that has ample room for a cremation box and items placed in the vault to honor a loved one.

Benches Add Beauty to Garden of Peace

Six benches were installed in the Garden of Peace in the fall. The cast iron benches were designed and built by Painted Sky Designs—a small family business in Dubuque Iowa, USA. The benches feature their Aspen and Evergreen design.

Four of the benches were placed facing the niches on each side of both columbariums to provide comfortable seating for family and other visitors. The other two benches sit ready for two additional columbariums as the need arises.

Take a moment to visit the Garden of Peace near the cemetery office on your next trip to Greenwood Cemetery to see the new benches and other recent improvements.



Photo by J. Foister

Explore Greenwood

Patrolman Thomas B. Elder: PA State Police Trooper Killed in the Line of Duty

In early December, the cemetery office received a call from Tom Durilla of Allentown, PA asking for the location of Thomas B. Elder's grave. Mr. Durilla is a retired PA State Police officer whose goal is to visit each of the 104 graves of fellow PA troopers killed in the line of duty. Mr. Durilla and his wife Leslye visited Trooper Elder's grave in Greenwood Cemetery on December 11, making their trip here the 87th such visit. Mr. Durilla was so appreciative of the help he received from the Greenwood staff in locating Elder's grave, he presented them with a PA State Trooper patch that will be displayed in the cemetery office.

A little online research produced the following information:

Thomas B. Elder had a tragic end to his short life while working to serve and protect the communities to which he was assigned. He was born in 1902 in Elders Ridge, Indiana County. In 1929 at age 26, he enlisted in the PA State Police and was assigned to Troop B in Greensburg.

Less than a year later, Trooper Elder was on patrol in Fayette County when he was hit by a drunk driver. He was thrown from his motorcycle and suffered life threatening injuries. The remainder of his life was spent in the Connellsville, then Indiana Hospital. He died of his injuries and subsequent complications in March 1931.

Thomas B. Elder was a PA State Trooper for just two years. He is buried in Section R Lot 38 of the cemetery alongside his mother Margaret Watson Elder, also of Elders Ridge.

Source: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/psp/about-psp/memorial-wall.html>

Photos: <https://www.findagrave.com>



Above: A Highway Patrol medallion marks Trooper Thomas B. Elder's grave.

At right: Fallen officer medallion close up.



2024 Annual Meeting of the Greenwood Cemetery Corporate Board

Plans are being made for the annual meeting of the corporate board. The meeting will be on Tuesday April 8, 2025 at Hoss' Steak and Sea House in Indiana. The meeting will start at 7:00 with an optional dinner at 6:00.

Please note these details are tentative at this time. All corporate board members will receive meeting information via email and/or mail once plans have been finalized.



Happy Holidays to the Greenwood Cemetery Corporate Board members and their families!

SEEN AT THE CEMETERY - HOLIDAY EDITION



Photos by Tracey Ryan