

THE GREENWOOD CEMETERY

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR CORPORATE BOARD MEMBERS

2024: A Look Back...

2024 was a year that found the staff of Greenwood Cemetery working together every day to take care of the grounds, the buildings, equipment, but most importantly, the needs of families. Here's a look at some number-related facts for 2024:

- 80 burials
- 59 burials were full/traditional burials
- 21 burials were cremations
- 25 lots sold
- 19 bronze memorials sold
- 11 niches sold in the Garden of Peace
- 42 concrete foundations were set for monument stones
- 5 concrete foundations for military plates were set and placed

... And Looking Ahead

As 2025 continues into the summer months, the Board of Managers continues to plan for further improvements to The Greenwood Cemetery. They are accepting bids for a covered ramp that would allow full access into the office building. Also, the Garden of Peace will have a large engraved rock at the entrance into the columbarium area.

Look for these additions to the grounds on your next visit!

Online Banking Saves Time and Money

Recently, the cemetery office started using Online Business Banking through S&T Bank. This change from traditional printed paper checks will allow the secretary to securely deposit payroll into employee's checking accounts, pay invoices, and make monthly recurring payments.

In addition to the safety and convenience of the service, the move to online banking has allowed the part-time secretary to work less hours per week and significantly lessened the costs associated with purchasing, printing, and mailing paper checks. For example, last month just four checks were printed and mailed compared to about 30 per month previously.

Over time, S&T Bank's online business banking service will save the cemetery a significant amount of money and clerical time.

Patriotic Award Given to The Greenwood Cemetery

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Indiana County Chapter recently announced Greenwood Cemetery was chosen to receive a United States Patriotic Flag display award on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at the Silas M. Clark House of the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County. The award was specifically presented for the proper use, correct display, and patriotic presentation of the Flag of the United States of America. DAR past regents Phyllis Mishtal and Darla Mechling (also of the Greenwood Cemetery Corporate Board) presented the honor.

Three Greenwood Cemetery board members attended the ceremony to accept the award: Gretchen Johnson, Don McCormick, and Ron Fairman. After President Don McCormick accepted the award on the cemetery's behalf. The Buildings and Grounds chairman Ron Fairman described the development and future improvements of the Garden of Peace columbarium area. Board of Managers member Gretchen Johnson shared that

her family purchased the flag, pole, and lighting in the Garden of Peace as well as the lighting illuminating the office flagpole. These donations were all made in honor of her late father and Marine veteran Harry "Bo" Wood who is buried in Greenwood.

There are others who deserve recognition for their hand in helping Greenwood Cemetery show its love of country on a daily basis. Board Vice-president Kathy Jones and her family provided the flag flown by the office building in memory of her parents Barbara and Bernard McQuown who are also buried in Greenwood. Ron Fairman and Roger Ringler ran the electric for both flagpoles. Finally, Roger and the cemetery grounds crew (Michael Lentz and Ron Gaston) erected the flagpoles and maintain each flag and the grounds where they are flown. Tom Perman does a wonderful job of making sure all veterans have well maintained flags and medallions at their gravesites.

The award is proudly displayed in the cemetery office.



Pictured with Greenwood Cemetery's United States Patriotic flag display award, from left, are: Darla Mechling, Gretchen Johnson, Don McCormick, Ron Fairman and Phyllis Mishtal. Photo submitted by Ron Fairman.

Explore Greenwood

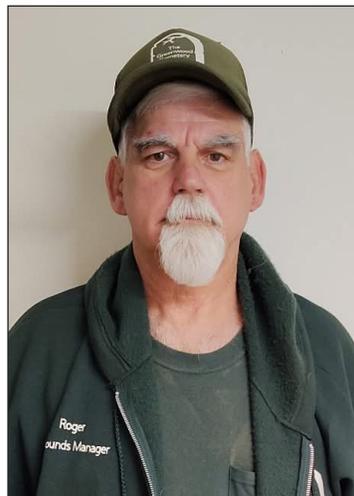
Eighty-plus Years of Family Dedication

Roger Ringler is the current head caretaker/grounds supervisor at The Greenwood Cemetery. He is so knowledgeable about all aspects of the cemetery and a look back into the cemetery's history sheds light on one of the reasons why.

The Ringler/Wilson family has a long history of employment and service to Greenwood. Many family members are either interred on the grounds of the cemetery or are current lot owners. Roger has worked for extended periods of time since the 1970s before taking over as the head caretaker in 2019. Back in the 1940s, both Roger's great-grandfather James W. Wilson Sr. and his grandfather James W. Wilson Jr. worked as cemetery caretakers. At this time, all graves were dug by hand!

Continuing in the family tradition, Roger's brother Thomas Ringler Sr. began helping at the cemetery when he was just 15 years old. His son Nick later followed in his father's footsteps.

Roger's sons have also been active over the years at Greenwood. Shawn was employed on the grounds



Roger works daily through the week and is often at the cemetery on the weekends as he is needed

crew for a few years before finding full-time employment elsewhere. Shawn and brother Jason volunteer to help their dad occasionally with larger jobs like trimming trees on the weekends.

Roger and Jason currently serve on the Greenwood Cemetery board and Shawn has been invited to join the board this year.

Recently, Roger's uncle Richard D. Wilson served on the Greenwood board until his death last year and is buried on the monument side of the cemetery.

The Greenwood Cemetery greatly appreciates the many ways the Ringler/Wilson family served for more than eighty years.

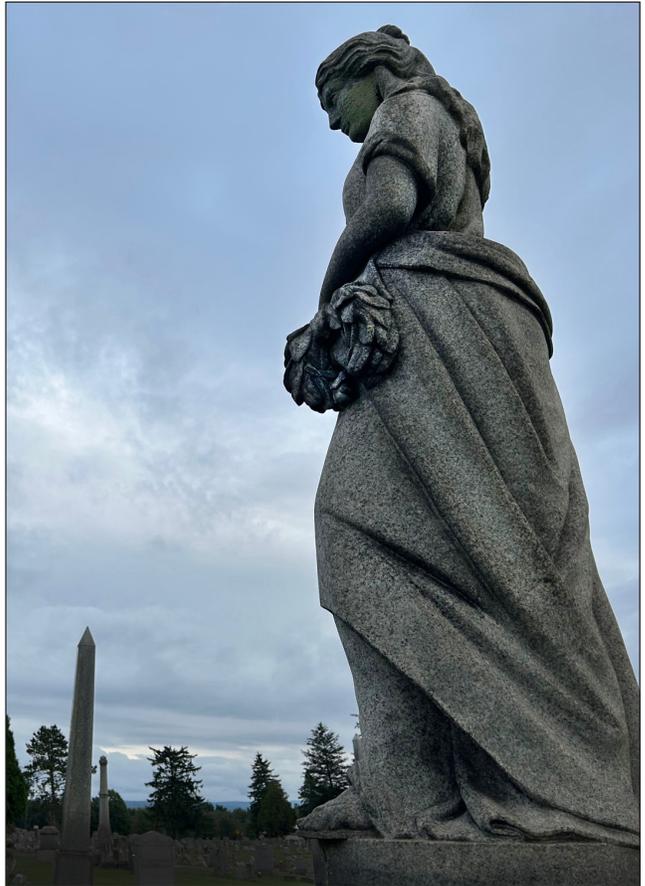
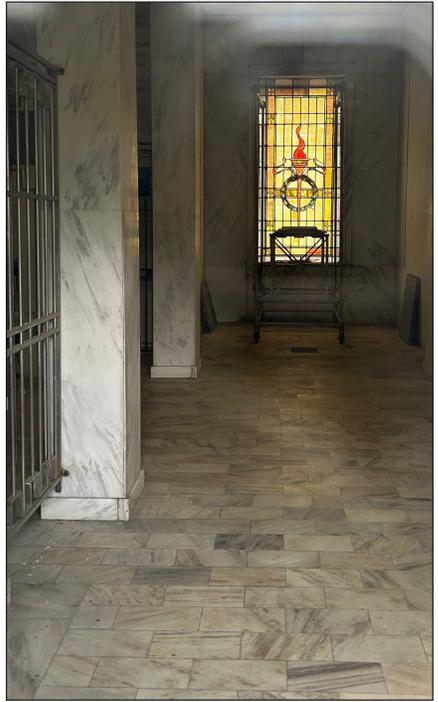


At left: Pictured are the Thomas Ringler Sr. family: Front: Josh and Nick Ringler. Back: Thomas Ringler Jr., Tom Sr., wife Jane Ringler and Jennifer (Ringler) Curtis. Submitted family gathering photo.



At right: Roger's sons Shawn and Jason Ringler worked at the cemetery several years ago and more recently serve on the Greenwood Cemetery board. Submitted family event photo.

SEEN AT THE CEMETERY



Photos by Tracey Ryan