



Happy Holidays!



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PLANNING FOR YOUR FUTURE

In an ideal situation, everyone would have a pre-planned funeral that included the purchase of a gravesite. The Athens Cemetery offers a Future Needs Program that allows up to five year financing at 0% interest on your future needs purchase. However, not everyone prepares their funeral plans in advance. This can result in difficult decisions for their loved ones.

Athens Cemetery lots and burial places are reasonably priced and are an inexpensive alternative compared to Dallas, Fort Worth Metroplex prices.

To learn more about the associated costs involved with burial at the Athens Cemetery, please contact Bobby Glass at 903-477-7281.



Athens Cemetery Our Year in Review. . .

2017 is coming to a close and the Athens Cemetery concludes its 159th year. A place of reflection and a historical landmark, the grounds of the cemetery provide comfort and a venue to celebrate and honor loved ones.

The cemetery is an official state historical cemetery. It has seven historical markers honoring leaders, characters, and icons that helped shape and form the Henderson County community and beyond.

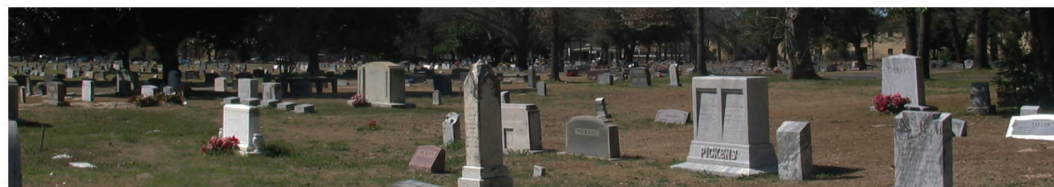
Contained in this newsletter is a historical spotlight that provides a short summary of each marker including the newest marker honoring Sid W. Richardson.

Whether you have an interest in history or just desire to walk under century old blackgums, Lebanon cedars, or stately magnolias, the Athens Cemetery is a cherished gift. We invite you to tour and experience this unique place of reverence and beauty. Visit or stop by the kiosk at the entry gate of the

cemetery to find loved ones or simply research the various sections of the cemetery. The kiosk is updated on a regular basis.

The Athens Cemetery Association is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the hallowed grounds of the Athens Cemetery and is committed to its preservation for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Board of the Athens Cemetery Association wants to express our deepest appreciation for your interest in the Athens Cemetery. Anyone who has an interest in the preservation and improvement of the Athens Cemetery is encouraged to contact the Board. Everyone is welcome!



It has been said that, at its best, preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future. . . William J. Murtagh



WE HONOR THE FALLEN

The Veterans' Memorial contains the names of veterans who have served their country dating back to the mid-1800's.

Conflicts represented include the Cherokee Indian War, the Spanish-American War, the Civil War, World War I and World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars.

Each year the wall is updated with the name of veterans who were laid to rest. The names are permanently engraved in the granite monument, categorized by the conflict in which the veteran served.

The impressive 50' long, 10' high structure consists of eight granite panels inlaid in brick. The Veterans' Memorial is illuminated at night and has a plaza to honor the veterans. A United States flag stands as a silent sentinel over the memorial.

The wall was made possible by the generous donations of the Friends of the Cemetery.

Historical Spotlight . . .

Perhaps you know that the Athens Cemetery has been designated as a Historical Cemetery by the State of Texas. The cemetery proudly displays a bronzed plaque at its main entrance gate that boasts this designation. Did you know, however, that there are six additional historic markers within the cemetery boundaries? The existing markers are summarized and you are encouraged to visit the graves and markers on your next visit. You will indeed learn something you did not know about these pioneers and leaders of our city and county.

Mrs. Dulcinea Ann Holland Thompson Avriett (1834-1920) - A native of Athens, Georgia, Dulcinea Holland came to Henderson County with her family in 1847. She married E. J. Thompson in 1851. According to local tradition, she named the town of Athens after her birthplace. Following the death of her first husband in the 1860's, she married James Avriett in 1867. They were parents of two sons. She was a founding member of the local Methodist Church and a dedicated civic leader.

Clinton Williams "Clint" Murchison, Sr. (April 11, 1895 - June 20, 1969) - Clinton Williams "Clint" Murchison, Sr. was a noted Texas-based oil magnate and political operative. Among his companies was the Southern Union Gas Company. He was also the father of Dallas Cowboys owner, Clint Murchison, Jr. and John Dabney Murchison. In 1943, Murchison married Virginia Long. He diversified his holdings into life insurance, banking, publishing, real estate, ranching, and railroads. He retired to Glad Oak Estate in the early 1960's frequenting local cattle sales and inspecting his ranches in the area. His influence reached not only the oil industry, but many other areas of business and commerce.

Rupert Talmage Craig (November 17, 1889 - February 15, 1968) - Born in Shiloh, Kentucky, he began setting type in a print shop at the age of 10. At the age of 16, he became the youngest licensed printer in Kentucky. He worked for several major U. S. newspapers before coming to work for the "Athens Review" in 1907. He purchased the Athens Review in 1916 and it became a successful daily newspaper. His distinctive editorials on politics and local events earned him the respect of area citizens and prominent state and national politicians. He sold the Athens Review in 1941 after 25 years as its publisher.

John Matthews McDonald (1827-1883) - Born in North Carolina, he came to Texas in 1848 and first lived at Larissa, Cherokee County and then Mound Prairie, Anderson County, Texas where his brother Murdoch had settled earlier. He moved to Athens in 1850 and became a teacher and lawyer. He served as the town's first mayor. During the Civil War, he fought with Hood's Texas Brigade. He was active in public service serving as justice of the peace, county judge, and state representative. His early leadership was vital to the development of his adopted home.

Joseph Thomas and Stella Parsons Larue - Stella Parsons was known as the first white child born in Terrell, Texas to Dr. Homer Lee Parsons and Margaret C. R. R. Parsons. Joseph Thomas LaRue was an Alderman on

Athens' first city council. LaRue, 13 miles east of Athens, was named for him. He was known as an educator, merchant, civic leader, banker, humanitarian, demorat, prohibitionist and historian.

HONORING A LOCAL LEGEND

On November 25, 2017, the Athens Cemetery dedicated its sixth historical marker honoring an individual - Athens native, **Sid W. Richardson**.

Mr. Richardson was a Texas Wildcatter that grew into an icon in the United States and world business circles. He was a friend and advisor to presidents, world business and civic leaders. The Rev. Billy Graham was a personal friend to Mr. Richardson and presided at Mr. Richardson's funeral service in Fort Worth.

Sid's relationship and partnership with boyhood friend, Clint Murchison, Sr., another Athens native, is legendary. Their friendship and superior business acumen coupled with an "Art of Making the Deal" attitude spawned the creation, acquisition, and purchase of oil companies, railroads, insurance companies and other business ventures that propelled them to the pinnacle of the business world in the 1930's to 1960's. This remarkable story of two Henderson County country boys that rose from rural Texas to become two of the most respected, successful business and industry icons of the 20th century.

The life of Mr. Richardson continues to have a tremendous impact on humanity and charitable endeavors through the Sid Richardson Foundation located in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Athens Cemetery Association offers our sincere thanks to the Sid Richardson Foundation for their support of the cemetery and the funding of this marker. Special thanks go to former Athens Cemetery board member and historian, Art Hall, and to board member, Chip Perryman for their tireless work and contributions in making this dedication a success.

To read the complete inscription of this historical marker, please visit us at www.athenstxcemetery.com.

HAVE YOU MET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

As mentioned previously, the Athens Cemetery is funded by the sale of lots and by private donations. Operations are overseen by a volunteer board of directors and two part-time staff, each having their own passion for the cemetery. Current board members include:

- Steve Grant, Pres.
- Stephen Sparkman, VP
- Randy Daniel, Sec.
- Larry Babb, Treas.
- John Cain, Member
- C. A. Hawn, Member
- R. F. Murchison, Jr., Member
- Chip Perryman, Member
- Sara Smith, Member

Bobby Glass, Cemetery Liaison
Darlene Forshage, Office Mgr.

If you have an issue or concern that you feel should be addressed by the board, we ask that you first check our website to see if the issue may be addressed there. If not, please contact us through the contact information provided here. Should we not be able to assist, the item may be added to the agenda of a future meeting of the board.

WE'RE ON THE WEB! Looking for additional information about the historic Athens Cemetery? Visit us at www.athenstxcemetery.com.



FRIENDS OF THE CEMETERY

While the Athens Cemetery Association is tasked with the day-to-day maintenance of the grounds at the Athens Cemetery, periodically there are needs at the cemetery that could cause the property to suffer financial hardships if met from the general fund. In 2002, forty-seven charter families put their financial support into what became known as the Friends of the Cemetery. Today, that number exceeds 150.

In October of 2003, an impressive seven-foot high Celtic cross was placed in the center of a newly expanded section of the cemetery. At its base is a circular red brick bench. The cross represented the first beautification project funded entirely by the Friends of the Cemetery, and a plaque commemorating the project is attached to its base. Today, the cross and bench continue to provide a place for quiet contemplation among the oak trees.

Since the first project in 2003, the following projects have been funded in part or in their entirety by the Friends of the Cemetery program:

A New South Gate Entrance (2004)

Fencing along the South Side of the Cemetery (2005-2006)

Informational Kiosk (2009)

Infant Burial Area (2010)

A Columbarium (2010)

Veteran's Memorial Court (2013)

New Irrigation Water Well (2014)

It's through the continued generosity of our Friends of the Cemetery program that the Cemetery Association can plan and develop beautification projects into the future. If you have not yet joined the Friends, please consider joining by making a donation. A return envelope has been provided for your convenience. There is no set membership fee – contributions of all levels are accepted and most definitely, appreciated! To those who have already joined, thank you for your generous support which makes these beautification projects possible!

Donations may also be made on this page of our website:

<http://athenstxcemetery.com/friends-of-the-cemetery>

Credit cards are accepted.

REASONABLE RATES

The sale of each lot/space within the Athens Cemetery is handled by transfer of deed. The purchaser then owns the property in its entirety. The Athens Cemetery Association maintains the cemetery, but individual property owners may also tend their plots as they deem necessary. The transference of deed also aids in genealogical research as it provides the researcher with a clear path of ownership.

Currently, there remain 4,000 lots/spaces available within the historic grounds (including cremation lots and Columbarium niches). The map will help you in identifying availability and consider pricing.

Principal and Historic Sections
\$1,100.00 per space

Celtic Cross Section
\$1,450.00 per space

Multi-Lot Family Section
\$1,000.00 per space
(Burial spaces sold in groups of 8 or more
and may be landscaped to suit buyer)

A traditional burial is not the only form of interment. If your loved one has chosen cremation over burial, perhaps you could consider purchasing a niche in our Columbarium. Each niche is reasonably priced at \$1,500.00 and will accommodate up to two individual urns.

Our Sincerest Thanks to . . .

We would like to express our sincerest thanks to the men and women listed below - current members of the Friends of the Cemetery. Your assistance allows us to do so very much toward the preservation of our beautiful cemetery!

Mr. John M. Adams
Ms. Doris Albers
Mrs. William Ayers
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Babb
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Bailey
Ms. Carol S. Barton
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Bateman
Mrs. Gail Baum
Ms. Susan Beaird
Mr. & Mrs. Don Bennett
Ms. Linda E. Berger
Mr. William D. Berry
Mrs. Rosa Lee Bishop
Mr. Bill L. Bledsoe
Mr. Richard E. Bolle
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Brown
Ms. Becky Hawn Brown
Mr. Mike Cade
Mr. & Mrs. John Cain
Ms. Shirley M. Calhoun
Ms. Esparanza Campa
Mr. & Mrs. Donny Campbell*
Mr. Marlin Castleberry
Mr. Billy Cissell
Ms. Barbara J. Coffman
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cole
Mr. & Mrs. James Conley
Ms. Deanne Cope
Mr. & Mrs. Don Copeland
Ms. Nora Cortez
Mrs. William M. Cox
The Tim Crecilius Family
Ms. Joanne Crout
The Honorable Judge & Mrs. Randy Daniel
Mr. Billy Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dean
Mr. & Mrs. David Deas
Mr. Franklin Denius
Mr. Wofford Denius
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Dingler
Ms. Frieda Doolen
Mr. Hank Douglas
Mrs. Tony Douglas
Mr. Dan A. Dwelle
Mr. Bob Farmer
Ms. Eleanor Farr
Mrs. Earlene Farrell
Mrs. J. D. Ferguson
Ms. Jacquelyn Fisher
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Fleming
Mrs. Betty A. Foster*

Mr. & Mrs. Gregorio Galvan
Mr. Salas Garcia
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Glass
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gould
Ms. Mary Ann Grady
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Grant*
Mr. Art Hall
Mrs. Rosie Marie Royall Harpool
Ms. S. Vincent Hash
Mr. Charlie Hawn
Mr. Harry D. Hawn
Mr. & Mrs. Joe V. Hawn, Jr.
Ms. Sarah Diana Hawn
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Herrington
Mrs. Imogene B. Higgs
Mrs. Bonnie Hocutt
Ms. Mildred Holland
The Honorable Judge Jack H. Holland
Mrs. Betty Hollowell
Ms. April C. Holt
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Hood
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hudson
Mrs. Billie Nell Hutton
Col. Robert E. Joiner
Mr. & Mrs. Walter E. Judge
Ms. Ellen R. Justice
Ms. Kathy Killingsworth
Mr. Lester Kinabrew*
Mrs. Kay King
Mr. & Mrs. Lance Lahourcade
Mrs. Eleanor Little Landrum
Mrs. Joyce B. LaRue
Mr. Eddie Lassiter
Mr. & Mrs. Don Lawyer
Mr. & Mrs. Leo C. Lee
Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth P. Lemmon*
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Livingston
Ms. Charmaine Locke
Mrs. Max E. Logan
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lunceford
Mr. Jaime Mancio
Ms. Barbara Martin
Mrs. Bob McDonald
Ms. JoAnne H. McElroy
Ms. Sandra Sawyer McLeroy
Mr. David McMichael
Dr. & Mrs. Ted Mettetal
Ms. Michelle Pope Mills
Mrs. Nancy H. Mills
Mrs. Sue S. Montgomery
The Honorable Judge & Mrs. Dan Moore
Mr. & Mrs. Randall Morse

Mr. & Mrs. Clint W. Murchison, III
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Murchison
Mr. Robert "Bear" Murchison, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Lonnie A. Murphy
Dr. James R. Ogburn, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael O'Shaughnessy
Ms. Margaret L. Parks
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Parsons
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Peek
Ms. Dolores Perkins*
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Perkins
Mrs. Mary Ann Perryman
Mr. & Mrs. T. E. Perryman
Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Perryman, III
Ms. Melissa Qualls
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ragland
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Ray
Mr. & Mrs. David Ring
Mr. & Mrs. Jed Robinson, Jr.*
Mrs. Ann Rounsavall
Estate of Charles M. Sanders, Jr.
Ms. Claudia Santos
Mr. John R. Sawyer
Mr. Robert D. Schneider
Mr. Stephen Sharpe
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Shelton
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory A. Shumpert*
Ms. Patricia Simpson
Mr. & Mrs. Garrett O. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Smith*
Mr. & Mrs. Trevanion M. Smith
Mr. Caddo Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Spann
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen R. Sparkman*
Ms. Geneva Stelling
Ms. Nannette M. Stelter
Mrs. Garry Stewart
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Strain*
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Stultz
Mr. Jim Summers
Mr. Douglas Tanner
Mr. Rob Tyner
Mrs. Carol Ann Wallace
Mr. Bill Ward
Mrs. Mary Faye Ward
Ms. Lela S. Warren
Mr. & Mrs. Donald W. Weibel
Mr. & Mrs. Tim Wheeler
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Whitten
Ms. Mary Margaret Wright
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Young
Mr. Jesus Zanala

* = Surviving Charter Member

CONTACT US ANYTIME
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR
FROM YOU!

By phone to the office
903-675-9203

By phone to
Bobby Glass, our
Cemetery Liaison
903-477-7281

By email
info@athenstxcemetery.com

On our website
www.athenstxcemetery.com

We can't do it without YOU . . .

The Athens Cemetery is maintained by the Athens Cemetery Association, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to maintain and preserve our historic cemetery.

The Athens Cemetery depends upon lot sales, interments, special gifts, and planned giving in order to operate. Costs to maintain the cemetery have continued to increase, but the challenge has been met. The board of the Athens Cemetery Association is dedicated to being good stewards of the funds provided to see that the cemetery remains a beautiful sanctuary for reflection, meditation and remembrance

for past and future generations.

We would like to thank the Friends of the Athens Cemetery for their continued support. Donations from the "Friends" are used for the beautification and permanent improvements to the cemetery.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Cemetery, please consider making a year-end contribution. Donations can be mailed to P. O. Box 1296, Athens, Texas 75751, or made online at www.athenstxcemetery.com.

Thank you for your generosity!!

athens cemetery association
p. o. box 1296
athens, tx 75751

