Lake Forest Cemetery

History

In 1867 the necessity arose to move Grand Haven’s cemetery from what is now Central Park. In 1872 forty acres on each side of Lake Avenue were purchased and designated for park and cemetery use. Lake Forest Cemetery adjoins the original Ferry Lot (Founder’s Hill, upper southwest area of Lake Forest Cemetery). The first burial was in September 1873, near Potter’s Field (Section No. 22). In the mid-1880s the City mandated the removal of all bodies from Central Park. Free lots in Lake Forest Cemetery were given for remains that were moved from Central Park by families or friends (Section No. 37-east end).

The Cemetery Board

The Cemetery Board is authorized to declare such rules and regulations that it deems appropriate concerning decorations on lots and such other matters deemed pertinent to the care and custody of the cemetery.

Cemetery Office Hours

The Lake Forest Cemetery sexton, his staff, along with the Cemetery Board strive to keep Lake Forest Cemetery a beautiful, dignified, park-like setting.

The Lake Forest Cemetery Office is generally open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, times are subject to change. Other hours are available by appointment. Please call 616-847-3489 if an appointment is necessary.

Contact Information

Mailing Address
519 Washington Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Cemetery Address
1304 Lake Avenue
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Web Site Address
www.grandhaven.org

Telephone
616-847-3489
Burials per Grave
The interment of two or more individuals in one grave is prohibited. Exceptions are: a mother and her infant, if interred at the same time, and two sibling infants interred at the same time. Up to six cremated remains may be interred in a single grave, with a single marker. With approval from the director of public works, one cremated remain may be interred with a standard burial, if room at the head or foot of the grave permits.

Memorials
Only one family memorial shall be allowed on a family lot with at least eight grave spaces, two of which will be used for the memorial. The size and design of the memorial must be approved by the director of public works. Only individual flush markers are permitted when used in relationship to a family memorial.

Markers
Temporary markers (metal name plates) may be used to identify a grave for up to six months from the date of interment.