

  
**BELLEFONTAINE**  
**CEMETERY**  
AND ARBORETUM

**RESEARCH IN THE CEMETERY**

Cemeteries are repositories of information. Death and interment records provide basic information that enables further research.

Gravestones are the ultimate historical artifacts of a cemetery. They are documents in stone with inscriptions and decorations that provide information for the benefit of future generations. When written records fail to survive, gravestones can often provide vital, historical information about deceased individuals.



**SUGGESTED CHECKLIST FOR CEMETERY RESEARCH:**

- ✓ Correct name and address of cemetery.
- ✓ Address of cemetery website.
- ✓ Correct spelling of deceased's full name.
- ✓ Correct dates of deceased's birth and death.
- ✓ Requests for plot map and interment records.
- ✓ Photo of gravestone

## **SOURCES FOR TODAY'S PRESENTATION:**

### **-RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION-**

Courtesy of Bellefontaine Cemetery and Arboretum

### **-BOOKS-**

Brown, Ryland *If The Stones Could Speak*, Gateway Seminars, 2014.

Carmack, Sharon DeBartolo *Your Guide to Cemetery Research*, Cincinnati, Ohio, Betterway Books, an imprint of F&W Publications, 2002.

Cooper, Gaylord *Stories Told in Stone*, Louisville, Kentucky, Motes Books, 2009.

Eakle, Arlene & Cerny, Johni, Authors & Editors *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, Salt Lake City, Utah, Ancestry Publishing, 1984.

Everton, George B. Sr. *The Handy Book for Genealogists, seventh edition*, Logan, Utah, Everton Publishers, Inc., 1981.

Keister, Douglas *Stories in Stone*, New York, NY, MJF books in arrangement with Gibbs Smith, Publisher, 2004.

### **-WEBSITES-**

[www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) - National Cemetery Administration

<https://memorials.com/info/headstone-symbols-meanings/> - Headstone Symbols and Meanings: A Guide to Cemetery Symbols

### **-PHOTOGRAPHS-**

Courtesy of:

Rebecca DiFilippo

Danial Fuller

Michele Thomas

## **To Contact Bellefontaine Cemetery...**

- For General Information or questions beyond the St. Louis area... [dfuller@bcastl.org](mailto:dfuller@bcastl.org)
- For specific Genealogy Questions or questions concerning Iconography... [Genealogist@bcastl.org](mailto:Genealogist@bcastl.org)
- For inquires on Research on topics beyond Family History... [Archivist@bcastl.org](mailto:Archivist@bcastl.org)

# US VETERANS' AFFAIRS

## EMBLEMS OF BELIEF FOR GOVERNMENT HEADSTONES

									
(01) CHRISTIAN CROSS	(02) BUDDHIST (Wheel of Righteousness)	(03) HEBREW (Star of David)	(04) PRESBYTERIAN CROSS	(05) RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CROSS	(06) LUTHERAN CROSS	(07) EPISCOPAL CROSS	(08) UNITARIAN CHURCH (Flaming Chalice)	(09) UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	(10) AARONIC ORDER CHURCH
									
(11) MORMON (Angel Moroni)	(12) NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA	(13) SERBIAN ORTHODOX	(14) GREEK CROSS	(15) BAHAI (9 Pointed Star)	(16) ATHEIST	(17) MUSLIM (Crescent and Star)	(18) HINDU	(19) KONKO- YO FAITH	(20) COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
									
(21) SUFISM REORIENTED	(22) TENKYO CHURCH	(23) SEICHO-NO-IE	(24) CHURCH OF WORLD MESSIANITY	(25) UNITED CHURCH OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE	(26) CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH	(27) UNITED MORAVIAN CHURCH	(28) ECKANKAR	(29) CHRISTIAN CHURCH	(30) CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE
									
(31) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST	(32) HUMANIST	(33) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)	(34) IZUMO TAISHAKYO MISSION OF HAWAII	(35) SOKA GAKKAI INTERNATIONAL (USA)	(36) SIKH (KHANDA)	(37) WICCA (Pentacle)	(38) LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD	(39) NEW APOSTOLIC CHURCH	(40) SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
									
(41) CELTIC CROSS	(42) ARMENIAN CROSS	(43) FAROHAR	(44) MESSIANIC JEWISH	(45) KOHEN HANDS	(46) CATHOLIC CELTIC CROSS	(47) CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST (Cross & Cross)	(48) MEDICINE WHEEL	(49) INFINITY	(51) LUTHER ROSE
									
(52) LANDING EAGLE	(53) FOUR DIRECTIONS	(54) CHURCH OF NAZARENE	(55) HAMMER OF THOR	(56) UNIFICATION CHURCH	(57) SANDHILL CRANE	(58) CHURCH OF GOD	(59) POMEGRANATE	(60) MESSIANIC	(61) SHINTO
									
(62) SACRED HEART	(63) AFRICAN ANCESTRAL TRADITIONALIST (Nyama Ye Obene)	(64) MALTESE CROSS	(65) DRUID (Awen)	(66) WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD	(67) POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH	(68) GUARDIAN ANGEL	(69) HEART	(70) SHEPHERD AND FLAG	(71) AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL
									(80) MUSLIM (Islamic 5 Pointed Star) Emblem not shown because of copyrights
(72) EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH	(73) UNIVERSALIST CROSS	(74) FAITH AND PRAYER	(75) ICHTHYS	(76) NICHIREN SHOSHU TEMPLE	(77) DOVE OF PEACE				(80) MUSLIM (Islamic 5 Pointed Star) Emblem not shown because of copyrights