

DAVID'S CEMETERY

"Generations of Care"

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The 2020 Pandemic: COVID-19

On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic. On March 23, 2020 Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine announced a stay-at-home or a shelter-in-place order, across the state. The pandemic has caused global social and economic disruptions ever since. Your cemetery was no exception. Your cemetery is considered an essential business and has remained open during this crisis. Our staff made adjustments to procedures and work schedules to accommodate all burials. New procedures for conducting business and meeting the needs of our families is still our first priority. We strive to provide our services with the utmost safety for our cemetery families and our employees. Alternating work schedules, masks, social distancing, temperature checks and limited access to our office and facilities have been in place ever since. We are carefully monitoring the rapidly changing situation, following guidance from both the CDC, the governor and local health authorities.

Although the times are challenging, our cemetery remains strong, financially stable, and operationally sound. As we navigate our way through this crisis, we have resources available to support you in your time of need. Please keep us informed of your needs and concerns so that we can work together to navigate the impacts of this pandemic over the weeks and months ahead.

We sincerely appreciate your business, patience, and continued support. For regular COVID-19 updates, please visit our website.

**Stay safe and healthy and know that we, as always,
remain steadfastly committed to serving you.**

www.davidscemetery.com

2020 Flag Day Celebration: Cancelled because of COVID-19

After extensive consideration of the spread of COVID-19 and the health and safety of all concert goers, staff, business partners, and overall community, the annual Flag Day Celebration was cancelled for 2020.

As we've watched the COVID-19 pandemic unfold, with all the uncertainty it held for the near future, we could not in good conscience hold a concert that would bring together more than 500-600 people within close proximity to each other.

Planning for the 2021 celebration is well underway, and we will keep you posted as programming takes shape. We look forward to reuniting with you at the Flag Day Celebration in June 2021. Until then, please stay well.

Mark your calendars for next year! Friday, June 11, 2021



Mark your holiday calendar...

Christmas Eve Luminaries

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Beginning @ Dusk

Introducing...

In January of 2020 we officially welcomed two new members to our cemetery staff family:

Toyia Long— Toyia works in our cemetery office and is from Trotwood. She is the mother of three: Michael III, Xamari and Tyler. She came to us after working at Burrows Paper (Novolex) in Franklin, OH as a customer service representative for 10 years then as a customer service supervisor for 4 years. Toyia enjoys traveling, going to movies and dinner, line dancing and being with family.

Doug Bradley—Doug works out on our cemetery grounds and is from Oakwood. He has been married to his wife Patricia (Patty) Bradley for 32 years and is the father of Allison, Hannah and Noah. He came to us after working at Lowe's for 15 years. He spends his spare time working on old houses: he has two.

APPRECIATION DISCOUNT

**FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL,
VETERANS AND ACTIVE OR FORMER
FIRST RESPONDERS ON THEIR PRE-NEED
BURIAL SPACE PURCHASE**

**David's Cemetery's
Appreciation Discount
provides 10% off their pre-need
burial space purchase.**

In appreciation of the service and sacrifice of those who have served or are currently serving, the following are qualified: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, National Guard, Military Reserves, Police, Firefighters and EMT's.

David's Cemetery—where peace and beauty provide rest and solitude.

Superintendent's Message

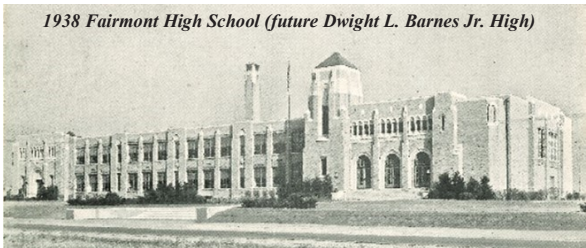
This year's person of focus is Van Buren Township/City of Kettering native Dwight Leland Barnes. Dwight was born on January 14th, 1896 in a two-story home, which still exists today, to his parents Oliver A. and Ella Routsong. Dwight grew up on the family farm and attended school at the first Fairmont High School located on W. Dorothy Lane next to St. Alberts school (that building would later become the first City of Kettering Police Station). While attending Fairmont he learned to play the trumpet, practicing in his backyard.

Upon graduating from Fairmont, he enrolled at the Ohio State University where he earned his tuition money by selling apples from his family farm. He played in the 68-piece OSU marching band and was a member of the conference winning 220-yard relay team. One of his team's members was three-time OSU All American football halfback Chick Harley.

World War I came, and Dwight joined the army and he found himself stationed at Camp Sherman near Chillicothe Ohio. When his Captain found out that he played the trumpet he wanted him to be his bugler. Dwight told him that buglers never get anyplace, so the Captain made him Sergeant Bugler with him training 200 young troops along with playing football for the 322 Field Artillery. Dwight then shipped out and fought in the Argonne Forest in France. While fighting in France he noted that the horses that pulled the artillery wagons in the war worked harder than any horses they had on the farm.

After the war he got a job teaching school from 1919-1923, in Van Buren Township and became the first shop teacher. Additionally, in 1922 he became the football coach, that year the team played against Oakwood, West Carrollton, and Moraine Schools. In those days high school football was not well organized so they would pick up players along the way and take them to the game. During these times it was not unusual for a coach to play however Dwight never did. Football officials were randomly picked, so rules could change during the game, and one game was played for over 4 hours. After the second Fairmont was built on Dorothy Lane in the late twenties Dwight took his first airplane ride from Col. Deeds airfield, where the Huber homes are located on W. Stroop Road he and the pilot took off from the flying field and swooped low over the Fairmont football field. Dwight shut his eyes and dropped out the ball to start the Fairmont-Oakwood football game held on Thanksgiving Day and he later stated he was scared but didn't want to let the kids know.

In 1922, he was hired to be principal of the second Fairmont High School which later became Dorothy Lane Elementary School. Then in September of 1926, he was named Van Buren Township Superintendent of schools under Montgomery County Superintendent C. W. Plessinger. The enrollment at the district at that time would be approximately 280 at Carrmonte School (later Southern Hills), 250 at Pasadena School (later Rose E. Miller), 750 at Belmont Elementary Schools (Belmont was still a part of Van Buren Township at this time. Additionally, these elementary schools are still standing on Smithville Rd. between Patterson Rd and Watervliet Ave), and 250 at Fairmont High School.



1938 Fairmont High School (future Dwight L. Barnes Jr. High)

Dwight saw the opening of the third Fairmont High School at 3700 Far Hills Ave. in 1930. In 1933, he was reappointed Superintendent at a salary of \$2700 which in today's dollars would be more than \$53,000. He saw the schools through the Great Depression, World War II and the flight to suburbia.

During his tenure as Superintendent the school system grew from 1530 students in 1926 to 11,000 students in 1959. In that period he and the School Board built the first campus style high school in Ohio, added new elementary schools such as Greenmont, Rolling Fields, Meadow Lawn, Southdale, Moraine Heights, Beavertown, Oakview, Orchard Park, George L. Ernst and Van Buren Jr. High. The Kettering School Board renamed the third Fairmont High School on Far Hills Ave. to Dwight L. Barnes Jr. High in 1959, when he retired.

In 1958, Dwight was named the Kiwanis Man of the Year and in 1975, he was Grand Marshall of the Kettering Holiday at Home Parade.

Dwight married Mabel Creager in 1921, she was the daughter of the first Constable for the City of Oakwood and the sister to Earl D. Creager, former construction contractor. She was also an elementary school teacher at Southern Hills and Southdale Schools. They were married 56 years and had one daughter. Dwight passed away on February 2, 1977.



Dwight Leland Barnes

Stephen D. Hopkins

Please remember that the cemetery grounds and all three mausoleums will be cleaned off starting at 7:30 a.m. Friday, November 27, 2020 (the day after Thanksgiving).

IF YOU HAVE ITEMS YOU WISH TO KEEP, PLEASE REMOVE THEM BEFORE THAT DAY.

You may place decorations back into the cemetery and mausoleums on Sunday, December 6, 2020.