



## NOTICE

To comply with Governor Carney's order for State of Delaware: 2nd Saturday volunteer projects are canceled until further notice.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** 

Placement of flags on Veteran graves cancelled

Memorial Day service cancelled.



# ANNOUNCING THE RETIREMENT OF TEDD COCKER FHRC BOARD MEMBER, VIETNAM VETERAN, HISTORIAN, RESEARCHER, GENEALOLOGIST, VOLUNTEER & FRIEND

For those of you who have been a recipient of Tedd's diligence in finding information, you are already aware of his capabilities and his commitment to locating a needle in a very large haystack.

Tedd's commitment to service extends far beyond Riverview Cemetery. He has spent countless hours assisting people around the globe to find their relatives.

#### **HONORING VETERANS**

Tedd, Vice-President of FHRC since 2009, identified over 350 additional veterans buried at Riverivew Cemetery. Veterans who have a civilian marker and therefore were not identified as veterans are now easily recognized with a blue circle adhered to their civilian marker. Tedd also increased the total count of veterans by searching many online newspapers.

Tedd participated in Memorial Day Services at Riverview as a speaker.Behind the scenes he also prepared the cemetery for visitors by organizing the American Flag placement project. He created a respectful process to identify and mark all veteran's graves at Riverview with a flag each year. Volunteers learned so much from Tedd with regard to flag placement, care, and etiquette.

MAY 2020

Tedd worked alongside men and women volunteers half his age. He leads by example in doing quality work. Tedd found some of the oldest veteran markers and instructed volunteer groups on the method to raise and reset sunken military markers. He also gave countless hours to complete required Federal Government paperwork to receive new Civil War markers to provide over 50 markers for veterans buried at Riverview who may have had a marker that was damaged or illegible or he provided assistance to families to complete paperwork. He works with a local memorial marker company to set the stones on proper foun-

> dations. He located graves of many African-Americans who served with Delaware's U.S. Colored Troops & Sailors during the Civil War and interred in cemeteries throughout the state.

> > Continued

to date, the graves of 1,157 veterans
to date, the graves of 1,157 veterans
have been located
Some veterans served in more than one
workconflict
veterans identified as "Defense" either di
inst serve in a war(conflict or we cannot
not serve in a war(conflict or we cannot
identify in which one they served

Mailing Address: Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery P.O. Box 2173 Wilmington, DE 19899

www.riverviewcem.com



The mission of Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery is to operate and maintain Wilmington's most culturally diverse, non-profit, public cemetery, and to support its restoration and preservation.



Riverview Cemetery • 3300 North Market Street • Wilmington, Delaware • (302) 762-4705

# FROM the BOARD

#### NEW PRICE LIST AT RIVERVIEW CEMETERY

Effective September 2019 Funeral Homes, Vault Companies, and Monument Companies have been notified. Single-depth gravesite \$1500 (paid at time of burial or pre-planned) \$2500 Double-depth gravesite (paid at time of burial or pre-planned) Purchase of extra-wide \$3000 single depth grave (paid at time of burial or preplanned) Entrance Fee Weekend \$900 (paid at time of burial) **Entrance Fee Weekday** \$650 (paid at time of burial) Marker Permit Fee \$100 (paid when marker is ordered)

Many Thanks to our March/April 2020 Donors!	
Belvia Koger	\$30
Ralph Johnson in honor of his 102 year old mother, Kathryn Johnson who has been a member of FHRC since 2010	\$30
B. F. Cooling	\$50
Joanne & Francic Taylor	\$100
Lewis Pennell	\$100
Nancy Hlywiak	\$200

Veteran count 1157 To view a complete list and Find A Grave page, please visit www.riverviewcem.com MEMBERSHIP: Friends of Historic Riverview Cemetery is a 501c/3 non-profit charitable organization. Your membership is tax-deductible and the funds are used for cemetery expenses. Please Join or Renew your annual membership now. And, find out if your employer will match your donation! *Membership Levels:* \$30 Individual • \$50 Family • \$125 Restorer • \$300 Preserver • \$500 Guardian

**ESTATE PLANNING:** Consider Riverview Cemetery in your Will. Gifts of stock, retirement plan assets, life insurance and real estate are all welcome. Contact us for assistance.

#### BURIALS

The Board of Directors assisted with 3 burials during March and 1 in April.

#### CREMATION

Families who choose cremation at the time of death may select a cemetery at a later time. We are available to assist you with the placement of your loved one's cremains at Riverview Cemetery. Four family-related cremains may be placed in a single gravesite (a new grave or a grave belonging to your relative). Call 302-762-4705 to discuss this affordable option.

#### Tedd Retirement, continued

#### VOLUNTEERING

Although Tedd is often found working alone on projects behind the scenes at Riverview, he never missed a Second Saturday of the Month volunteer project or special projects with school and corporate groups.Tedd leads by example and is a natural teacher.



## TEDD LEADS BY EXAMPLE AND IS A NATURAL TEACHER.

Early on, Tedd assumed leadership in all aspects of the burial process at Riverview and trained other members of the board to assist him. He researched paper records and probed the gravesites to determine the *'truth on the ground'*.He kept electronic records of the burials and corrected errors from the past. (Approximately 36,500 people are in the burial database).Tedd has restored dignity to the cemetery and gained respect among professionals in the funeral industry due to his professionalism. He provided gracious and

high caliber customer service through his ability to communicate accurate information to people locally and worldwide.

Tedd initially found Riverview Cemetery while volunteering with 'Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness', (raogk.org) a worldwide group of volunteers who donate time in their local communities. Tedd researched obituaries, library records, and archives. He photographed markers and shared information with others. More importantly, Tedd restored confidence among the families of the deceased when people sorely needed to know someone cared.

Please join us in wishing Tedd and Joan the gift of time to enjoy their new "retirement".



Visit our website: www.riverviewcem.com





Kate Wilhere

Treasurer

Lee Anderson

Tedd Cocker

Mary King

Secretary

Debbie Dodd

Member-at-Large

Vice President

President

The Strategic Planning Committee did not meet in April due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In the March Newsletter your input to 7 questions was requested. It was wonderful to receive feedback from 60 people!

Welcome to Riverview Cemetery! Brandywine Nurseries will cut grass and trim markers every two weeks from April throughOctober, weather dependent. Please remove your grave decorations in a timely fashion.



During this time of social isolation and cancelled activities please use our Facebook page to share information and photos. The month of May themes may be 1) Volunteering in the Spring 2) Remembering our Mothers, and 3) Memorial Days through the Years. Go to Facebook: Riverview Cemetery - Friends of Riverview Cemetery