

# RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING TOWN OWNED CEMETERIES

## VETERANS CEMETERY AT THOMPSON HILL

### INTERMENTS & BURIAL RIGHTS

**Eligibility:** Anyone who has served in any branch of the United States Armed Forces: United States Army, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Air Force and United States Coast Guard who received an Honorable Discharge or Retirement is eligible for burial. The stipulation for this eligibility is that the service member entered service from Lakeville, resided in Lakeville or has a family who resides in Lakeville.

1. Single grave/plots are sold by the issuance of a deed, prepared by the Town Clerk and certified by the Cemetery Commission. A plot is one full size grave.
2. No single grave/plot bought is to be resold, transferred or given away. In the event it is no longer wanted or needed it will be returned to the town. The original purchase price with any additional fees paid will be refunded to the original buyer.
3. All single grave/plots are sold to the eligible veteran for a token fee of \$1.00. Perpetual care is \$300.00 to be paid before the issuance of a deed. There will be a recording fee of \$25.00. There are no time payments offered.
4. A spouse may be buried in the single grave/plot with the veteran at the current fee schedule.
5. Two full body burials, or 2 cremations or any 2 combinations are allowed in a single grave/plot.
6. One white military furnished monument is allowed per grave/plot. A 24"X12" foot marker of choice is allowed for the spouse.
7. No interments will take place before payment of all fees and the accompaniment of a "Burial Permit" and an "Interment Order" is completed by the Cemetery Commission.

## **DESCENT & DISTRIBUTION**

1. General Laws, Chapter 114, Section 29:

· If a grave/plot owner dies intestate, the grave/plot descends to the heirs at law, but subject to the provisions of Chapter 190, Section 3. The grave/plot can only be filled by a veteran subject to eligibility above.

2. All monuments and foot markers shall have foundations as prescribed by the Cemetery Commission and constructed by the Town Grave Digger.

3. Full body burial shall have cement vaults or cement boxes with solid covers.

4. Under no circumstances will a Veterans Grave have ornamentation of any kind. Anything placed on the grave except annual United States Flags will be removed and destroyed.

5.. The Cemetery Commission reserves and shall have the right to correct any errors that may be made by it, in making interments, disinterment's or removals or in the description, transfer or conveyance of any interment rights and property, by canceling such conveyance and substituting and conveying in lieu thereof interment property or burial rights of equal and similar location as far as possible. In the event such an error shall involve the interment of the remains of any person in such burial rights or property, the Cemetery Commission shall have the right to remove and/or transfer such remains so interred to such other property or burial rights of equal value and similar location as may be substituted and conveyed in lieu thereof.

7. The Cemetery Commission Members, Lakeville Highway Department and the Lakeville Town Gravedigger are the only authorized persons to perform maintenance or work in Town owned cemeteries.

8. The Cemetery Commission will exercise all care to protect monuments and markers. It disclaims responsibilities for any damage or loss caused by an act of God, common enemy, thieves, vandals, accidents, riots, or order of any military or civil authority.

9. Domestic animals are not allowed in town cemeteries.

10. No rubbings of any kind shall be made of any grave stone, marker, or monument without the written permission of the Cemetery Commission.

Veterans Cemetery Rules & Regulations, Page 3, Continued:

Please contact the Cemetery Commission or the Town Clerk with questions to these Rules and Regulations.

The intent of these Rules and Regulations is to have cemetery order and equality and to insure that our cemeteries are kept in uniformity with each other and according to Massachusetts General Laws.