



CEMETERIES and BURIAL GROUNDS TOWN OF GILMANTON, NH

DONATIONS

The Primary Duty and Goal of the Cemetery Trustees is to insure the protection and maintenance of all sites under their management, now and in perpetuity. Funding for this work occurs in three ways:

1. From the time of the first burial in Gilmanon until 2006, families could choose whether to create a maintenance fund for the future care of a loved one's grave. The money was held and invested by the Gilmanon Trustees of Trust Funds and the annual income was used only to maintain that grave in that cemetery. During that time, a total of 85 individual care funds were created for burials in 13 different cemeteries.

However, there are currently 36 cemeteries and burial grounds under the care of the Cemetery Trustees. Most are small, abandoned sites for which no records exist and in which no maintenance occurred. In total they hold 1,134 marked, and a significantly large but unknown number of unmarked graves. The total annual income from the existing care funds covers approximately only 30% of the annual maintenance cost of all sites. (As a note, the Smith Meeting House and Pine Grove Cemeteries are owned, managed and funded by private Associations, not the Town)

In 2006, cemetery regulations were adopted requiring care funds as part of a grave purchase. This assures there is no further financial burden imposed by additional burials. However, that does not address the cost of maintaining existing graves for which no care funds were created.

2. The second form of funding for this work is from the Taxpayers of the Town of Gilmanon who annually consider a Cemetery Budget. The Taxpayers have been consistently supportive of maintaining these important historic grounds; but the Trustees search for alternative methods of support.
3. Since families, residents and other concerned individuals are becoming aware of this financial need, some private donations have occurred. These donations are also invested by the Gilmanon Trustees of Trust Funds and the annual income is made available to the Cemetery Trustees for the care of these sites.

It seems evident that achieving financial security and minimizing the taxpayer burden for these cemeteries will occur only in the form of private donations. And, like the recently established McIntyre Family Fund, the income from private donations will be available for all the 38 sites owned and/or managed by the Town of Gilmanon.

For this reason, the Trustees encourage everyone to consider a donation, regardless of amount, to protect our Cemeteries. Donations can occur directly or through an estate planning process. These donations to the Town are deductible under IRS Codes section 170(a)(1) and 170(c)(1). We thank you for your consideration of this option.

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TOWN OF GILMANTON, NH**

DONATION FORM

Donations can occur directly or through your estate planning process. For direct donations, please complete the following.

A donation is enclosed for the support of the Cemeteries and Burial Grounds owned and/or managed by the Town of Gilmanton through the Gilmanton Cemetery Trustees.

The donation will be deposited with the Gilmanton Trustees of Trust Funds; the annual income from which will be made available for said sites.

Donation From: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ e-mail Address: _____

Given in the name of (not required): _____

Amount: _____ Cash Check (# _____)

Donor's Signature Date

Please contact cemeteries@gilmantonnh.org with any questions.

Donations are deductible under IRS Codes section 170(a)(1) and 170(c)(1).
Please make checks payable to Gilmanton Trust Fund Trustees and mail to:
Gilmanton Cemetery Trustees
c/o Candace Daigle
P.O. Box 119
Gilmanton, NH 03237

Thank you for helping to protect these important heritage sites!