



RIVERDALE ~ PORTERDALE
CEMETERY FOUNDATION, INC.

www.riverdaleporterdale.org

Fall 2020

Government Markers for Veterans

Throughout Riverdale, Porterdale and East Porterdale Cemeteries, special headstones and markers honor Veterans who have served in all branches of the military during both war and peace. Hundreds of Veterans are buried in the American Legion Section of Riverdale Cemetery and many more have been laid to rest in private and family lots across all three cemeteries.



Upright Stone Marker



Flat Bronze Marker



Medal of Honor Medallions



The Union Shield

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) furnishes a Government headstone or marker at no cost for the **unmarked** grave of any eligible Veteran in any cemetery around the world, regardless of their date of death. If the grave of a Veteran already has a privately purchased gravestone or marker, he or she may still be eligible for a Government memorial depending on dates of service and date of death.

The VA offers several options: flat markers in granite, marble, or bronze; upright headstones in granite or marble; a bronze niche marker for columbaria; and three sizes of bronze medallions that can be affixed to an existing gravestone. All options are allowed at Riverdale, Porterdale and East Porterdale. Flat markers are required in the American Legion section, but both flat and upright markers can be used elsewhere. For more information about military headstones and markers, visit www.cem.va.gov/hmm.

In national cemeteries, state Veterans cemeteries and military base or post cemeteries, the headstone or marker will usually be ordered and installed by cemetery officials. An application and any required forms must be submitted by a family member or authorized representative, along with proof of dates of service. While there is no charge for a memorial item, the applicant must make arrangements for installation and pay any associated costs when it is placed in a private cemetery. Cemetery policy should be reviewed before choosing a marker type.

Upright and flat markers can include one of more than seventy (70) available emblems that represent the service member's beliefs. Examples are the Latin Cross (Christian), the Star of David (Jewish), the Celtic Cross, the Christian Community symbol and other denominational insignias. Other than a belief symbol, the only other emblems allowed are the Civil War Union Shield, which is also used for Spanish-American War Veterans; the Civil War Confederate Southern Cross of Honor; and the Medal of Honor insignia.

Dales Society

New and Renewal -- 03-16-2020 through 08-31-2020

BENEFACTOR

Mrs. Lula Lunsford Huff
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford J. Swift, III

PATRON

Mr. William D. Blau
Mrs. Margaret G. Zollo

SPONSOR

Mr. and Mrs. W. Mizell Alexander
Mrs. Cordy W. Arnold
Mrs. Loretta L. Ayers
Mrs. Janice Persons Biggers
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Broda
Mrs. Susan U. Buck
Mrs. Eleanor T. Burnham
Mrs. Dorothy T. DesPortes
Mr. William E. Dillard, Jr.
Ms. Patsy A. Fuller
(continued)

SPONSOR

(continued)
Paul and Jane Grimes
Mr. George Hamer
Donna and Kerry Hand
Mr. and Mrs. Madden Hatcher, Jr.
Historic Linwood Foundation
Mrs. Etta D. Langley
Ms. Cynthia Nason
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Pound
Mr. William G. Scrantom
Greg and Cindy Smith
Franklin J. Star, M.D.
Mrs. Ann Cox Strub
Temple Israel
Mr. Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.
Barry and Gale Wall

GUARDIAN

Mrs. Deborah J. Abraham
Mrs. Miriam B. Copelan
Mrs. Joan E. Culpepper
Mrs. John H. Deaton
Mrs. Ann Fox
Mr. L. Allen Fuller, III
Mr. Spencer Garrard
Mr. John F. Greenman
Dr. and Mrs. Cecil C. Hudson
Judge and Mrs. John T. Laney, III
Mr. Con T. McDonald
Mr. Thomas D. Orr
James and Laura Patrick
Mrs. Alyce Sullivan
Jack and Isabelle Warren

SUPPORTER

Mrs. Erwin D. Key
Ms. Leslie C. Search
Mr. Dan Snavelly

Other Donations

03-16-2020 through 08-31-2020

In Memory of Dr. Roland Bird Daniel

Mrs. Eva L. Gumbert

In Memory of Marjorie Sykes King

Ms. Leslie C. Search

In Memory of George S. and Leah D. Hamer

Mrs. Miriam B. Copelan

In Memory of Catherine Poydasheff Ross

Col. (Ret.) and Mrs. Robert S. Poydasheff

General Fund Donation

Mr. Alan Rothschild

Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Help Us Continue our Mission

We hope you will consider becoming a member of the **Dales Society** or making a donation of any amount to **our General Fund**. We need your support to move forward with our mission to preserve, enhance and promote Riverdale, Porterdale and East Porterdale cemeteries. **Thank you!**

	Level	Donation Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Dales Society Membership, Choose Your Membership Level 	Supporter	\$30-\$49
	Guardian	\$50-\$99
	Sponsor	\$100-\$249
	Patron	\$250-\$499
	Benefactor	\$500 or more
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make your check payable to: (Mark as Dales Society or General Fund) 	Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mail donation to: 	P.O. Box 5128 Columbus, Georgia 31906	

Donations can be made in memory or honor of loved ones or other special people. We will gladly notify the person being honored or the family member(s) of the person being remembered.



Profile: A Life of Service

Aaron Cohn (1916-2012), beloved Juvenile Court Judge, was truly a champion of children, never losing faith in them, though their troubles brought them to his court. He retired in 2011 at age 95 as the longest serving Juvenile Court Judge in the country.

A veteran of World War II, he volunteered for active duty in 1940 and fought in four major campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge. He served with General George S. Patton's 3rd Infantry Division and later was a liberator of the Ebensee (Austria) concentration camp, **which occurred 75 years ago** on May 6, 1945. Approaching terrified Jewish survivors, he held out his hands and declared simply, "I am an American Jew." Judge Cohn earned a Bronze Star and retired as a Colonel in the U. S. Army.

He was a man of many interests and talents, excelling in all. He exemplified service and held leadership positions that benefited his community, his city and state, his profession, his alma mater (The University of Georgia), his religion and Temple Israel, and his country. Judge Cohn received many honors related to his military service, legal career, volunteer service and work as a humanitarian.

During more than four decades as a Juvenile Court Judge, he touched and changed countless lives. Judge Cohn kept a picture on his desk that read, in part: "A hundred years from now it will not matter what my bank account was, what sort of house I lived in, the kind of car I drove... but the world may be different because I was important in the life of a child."

What more fitting time for this generous and patriotic man's life to end than in his 96th year on the Fourth of July. Judge Aaron Cohn is buried in the Temple Israel section of Riverdale Cemetery.



Other Symbols Commonly Seen on the Grave Markers of Veterans

In addition to branch of service and distinguished service designations, such as the Purple Heart and Bronze Star, following are some of the symbols that may be found on the private grave markers of veterans:



Eagle



Oak and Acorns

Flag – Patriotism, Liberty and Loyalty; a member of the armed services.

Stars & Stripes Around an Eagle – Eternal Vigilance and Liberty.

Sword – Infantry.

Crossed Swords – A person of high rank or a life lost in battle.

Horse – Cavalry.

Eagle -- Courage, Faith and Generosity.

Shield – Strength and Courage.

Oak and Acorns – Power, Authority, Victory, Honor and Strength.

Rifle – Military Service.

Cannon – Artillery.

Wreath – Glory, Victory in Death.



P.O. Box 5128
Columbus, Georgia 31906

**Thank you for supporting the
Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation.**

margzl40@gmail.com

www.riverdaleporterdale.org

**Adopt the
American Legion Section**

This important section of Riverdale Cemetery is in need of refurbishment, including a new flag pole and a commemorative monument or sign. **This would be a wonderful project for a family, church, civic organization or Veterans Group to sponsor.** Interested parties can email the Riverdale-Porterdale Cemetery Foundation at margzl40@gmail.com.



You never know who might be visiting Riverdale, Porterdale and East Porterdale Cemeteries!