



Terry &
Punki Bullis



REO Hearse 1919
 Similar to the 1922 REO Hearse owned by
 In 1922 John purchased his first motor
 sed REO from a funeral home in Livingston,
 Montana. It was light grey in color with sculptured
 designs on both sides. The REO became hard to start
 on cold winter days. It was long before anti-freeze so
 they would drain the water out of the radiator and
 engine. The next time they would need to use the
 hearse, they would have to fill it with water. Since it
 took time to get it running John wouldn't turn it off.
 Once the pallbearers removed the casket he would
 drive the car a short distance so that the engine
 running wouldn't disturb the funeral.

2020-2021 MFDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chris Holt, President
Anderson Stevenson Wilke
Funeral Home, Helena
chris@aswfuneralhome.com
Office-406-442-8520



Matt Coon, Southcentral
District Governor
Billings
mtc1@bresnan.net
Cell-406-951-1546



T.J. Stevenson, Vice
President
Stevenson & Sons Funeral
Home, Miles City
tj@stevensonandsons.com
Cell-406-853-1860
Office-406-232-4457



Fred Nelson, Western
District Governor
The Lake Funeral Home
Polson
flateheadpolson@centurytel.net
Office-406-883-2808
Cell-406-261-0579



Tyson Moore, Treasurer
Garden City Funeral Home,
Missoula
tyson@agelessinc.com
Cell-505-985-2712



Scott Stevenson, Eastern
District Governor
Stevenson and Sons Funeral Home,
Miles City
scott@stevensonandsons.com
Office-406-232-4457



Steve Kirkegard, Secretary
Smith Funeral Chapels,
Billings
skirkegard@yahoo.com
Office-406-245-6427



Rick Walter, Northcentral District
Governor
O'Connor Funeral Home and
Cremation, Great Falls
rick@oconnorfuneralhome.com
Office 406-453-7257



Todd Carmichael,
Immediate Past President
O'Connor Funeral Home, Great
Falls
todd@oconnorfuneralhome.
com
Office-406-453-7257



Irene Dahl, Southwestern
District Governor
Dahl Funeral & Cremation Service
Bozeman
irene@dahlcares.com
Office-406-586-5298
Cell-406-595-1410



Kyle Zimmerman, Policy
Board Member
Longfellow Finnegan Riddle
Funeral Home
Anaconda
iamzmany@yahoo.com
Office-406-563-3371



James Brown
Executive Director
jim@thunderdomelaw.com
Office-406-449-7444



Terri James
Association Assistant
info@montanafda.org
Office-406-449-7244
Cell-406-490-7712

Calendar of Events 2021

September 16

MFDA Board of Directors Dinner
Celtic Cowboy/Hotel Avron
Great Falls

September 17

MFDA Board Meeting
Historic Hotel Avron
8:00 AM
Great Falls

October 25

Northern Hotel Billings
Fall District Meeting –Live 2 CE
6:00-9:00
Cocktails, Dinner, Meeting
Featuring Dominick Astorino
Associate Members Welcome

October 27

Missoula-location TBD
Fall District Meeting –Live 2 CE
6:00-9:00
Cocktails, Dinner, Meeting
Featuring Dominick Astorino
Associate Members Welcome

Oct 17-20

NFDA Convention – Nashville, TN.

Available anytime to members

OSHA Employee Training- Stericycle
Email info@montanafda.org for log-in information

“There is no exercise better for the heart and soul than reaching out and lifting others up.” –Anonymous




MONTANA FUNERAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

info@montanafda.org
www.montanafda.org
406.449.7244-Helena
406.988.0110-Dillon


PO BOX 4267
Helena, MT 59604
PO BOX 1003
Dillon, MT 59725

James Brown
Executive Director

Terri James
Executive Assistant



TIMELESS TRADITIONS
Heirloom Quality Keepsakes at Value Pricing



Keepsake Urns, Ash Holder Pendants, Tear Bottles, Memory Boxes and More.
Most are Made in Montana and Made in the U.S.A.

Call or email us and request a free catalog.
TIMELESS TRADITIONS, INC.
1627 W. Main St., #368 • Bozeman, MT 59715
406.388.2900
info@TimelessTraditionsGifts.com
www.TimelessTraditionsGifts.com

We walk in

PARTNERSHIP.

More than 120 years ago, Batesville began crafting high-quality caskets – and began a journey of helping funeral professionals honor every life with respect and compassion. Along the way, we have learned from thousands of funeral directors, and expanded our business to support every aspect of yours, from guiding families in the selection process to managing your business.

Thank you for your partnership, and inspiring us to always go further.

WE LISTEN. WE LEARN. WE WALK WITH YOU.

To learn how Batesville can make a difference for you and your families, visit Batesville.com/InspiringStories



©2019 Batesville Services, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY CHRIS HOLT

Here we are winding down our hot and smokey summer and entering the Fall Season. It has been a busy time for us in the funeral industry.

We are still holding services and gatherings from families that could not have services during COVID and on top of our regular caseloads. I believe in my interactions with families, the importance of having services and gatherings is an utmost importance and critical for them to have a venue for grieving, celebrating, and a sense of closure that was taken from them during the pandemic. I believe the importance of what we do was solidified during this unfortunate period. Great job to all of you and your teams.

We are gearing up for the National Convention in Nashville, I hope to see some of you there. It sounds like it will be well worth the trip. After that, we will be having our Fall District meetings in person on October 25 in Billings and October 27 in Missoula. I am excited to see everyone in person and get some personal interactions back again. The meetings will have Dominick Astorino presenting and sounds like it will be a great presentation.

Speaking of Fall District meetings, District Governor elections will be taken place by email for each District, we need this done by September 17 for our MFDA Board Meeting. If you or someone you know wants to put their hat in the ring, please email your current District Governor or email Terry.

Inspections are well under way; you have either been inspected or will be soon. The Board of Funeral Service will be ramping up audits for CE's, make sure your paperwork is up to date. Keep in mind the Stericycle OSHA training, free for MFDA members. This is a good time to have the training for you and your staff.

As we prepare for the last part of the year, I am grateful for our MFDA Board, Our Executive Director Jim, and Terri for all their hard work and time making our association what it is. We are stronger and have a great bunch of members. Thank you to all for your help and assistance with our association and making it what it is today.

I look forward to seeing some of you in person, either in Nashville or at the District Meetings. I personally want to thank everyone for their input and guidance during my term as president. I hope everyone health and blessings. God Bless.

-Chris



Start talking about how you want to be remembered.

Meaningful memorialization starts when you talk with loved ones about what matters most in your life: memories made, lessons learned, and how you want to be remembered.

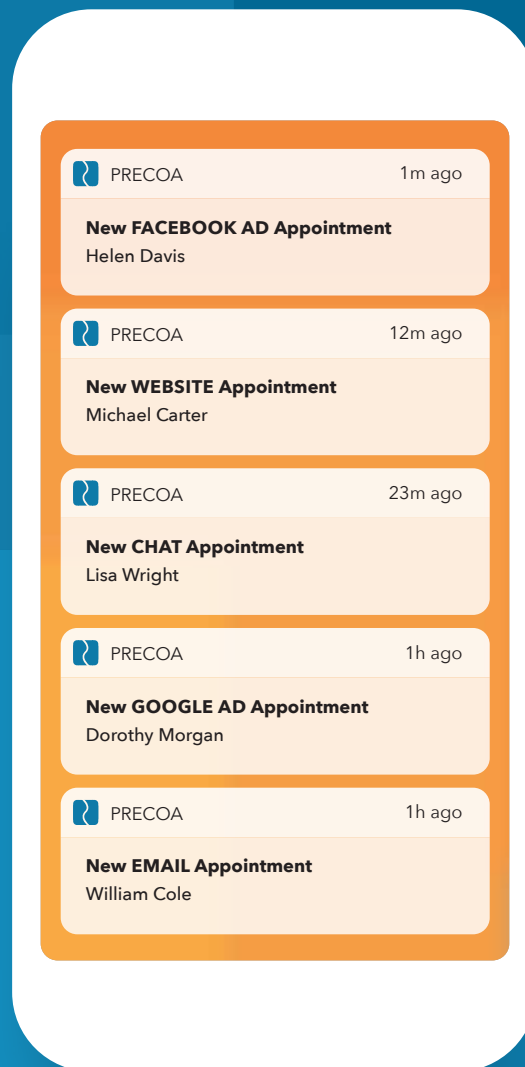
Download a free brochure and *Have the Talk of a Lifetime* today. It can make the difference of a lifetime.

TalkofaLifetime.org

Have the **Talk**
of a **Lifetime**®

Go Beyond Likes and Clicks.

START CONNECTING AND CONVERTING ONLINE.



FREE DEMO AVAILABLE AT [PRECOA.COM/DIGITAL](https://precoa.com/digital)

Say hello to the only digital marketing platform that is uniquely optimized for preneed sales. It's about more than likes and clicks. It's digital marketing that actually converts.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT BY JAMES BROWN

Welcome to our summer edition of the Directors Digest. With temperatures reaching nearly 100 degrees through June and early July, it appears as if the 'dog days of summer' will be hot ones in Montana this year.

Speaking of the dog days of summer, did you know that term refers to the dates from July 3rd through August 11th and that those date ranges are named after 'Sirius' – the dog star?

Late spring was a productive time for the Association. In June, the MFDA held its third board meeting for the year. The Board met in person for the first time since the start of the covid-19 pandemic. The meeting was held in conjunction with the online annual membership meeting and the two-hour continuing education program presented by long-time NFDA general counsel Scott Gilligan.

Scott gave a great presentation on the topics of cremation liability and Montana's right of disposition. The program was both informative and timely, given the growing liability risk associated with both covered topics. The MFDA was fortunate to have Mr. Gilligan present to our membership given Mr. Gilligan's forthcoming retirement on December 31, 2021. Mr. Gilligan has always been a good friend to and a quality resource for the MFDA, and we here at the Association wish Mr. Gilligan all the best as he moves into his next stage of life.

The June board and virtual meetings were conducted at a time that would have otherwise been the Association's time for the annual convention and tradeshow. Unfortunately, the MFDA convention was cancelled as a live event for the second year in a row due to the circumstances related to the covid-19 health situation. However, the MFDA Board is confident that our 2022 annual convention and tradeshow set for Helena will come off as a live event and that all of us will return to the 'normal course of business' as we move into the summer of 2021 and beyond.

During the 2021 annual membership meeting, the membership voted to renew the terms of all current executive board members. As such, Chris Holt will serve another year as Association President. T. J. Stevenson will continue on as MFDA Vice-President, Tyson Moore will continue as MFDA Treasurer, and Steve Kirkegard will serve as MFDA's

secretary. Kyle Zimmerman will continue to be MFDA's NFDA

Policy Board representative. Todd Carmichael will step into the role of MFDA past-president. We here at the Association thank each of those individuals for their willingness to serve. We commend them for the great voluntary work they have performed on behalf of the Association during what provided to be a most challenging year professionally and personally.

During the 2021 membership meeting, I provided an update on the Association's finances as of the end of the year 2020. At that meeting, I reported that, overall, the Association's financial position remained very strong coming out the year 2020. Total liabilities and equity for the Association sat at \$560,890.08 as of year-end. Comparing that figure to year end of 2019, where total liabilities and equity of MFDA stood at \$487,308.27, shows that the Association had a net positive change of \$73,581.81 in asset for the year 2020.

Further, as to the Association's investment account, at the end of 2020, the account had a corpus of \$402,491.43. At the end of 2019, the amount held in investment was \$363,813.53. As such, the investment account grew by a healthy 10.6%. I am pleased to report these just-recited figures show the Association's financial health is strong and growing. These figures also demonstrate that the MFDA Board is carrying out its fiscal fiduciary duties well.

Also, in June, the Association monitored the Department of Public Health and Human Services' rulemaking on MFDA's legislation,

House Bill 139. As the reader will recall, HB 139 increased the cost of death certificates, directing that the revenue generated by that fee increase be allocated to the Montana Board of Funeral Services for its use. The portion of the rulemaking related to MFDA's bill received no adverse public comment. However, the portion of the rulemaking dealing with implementation of SB 280 from the 2021 legislative session did receive much public interest.

This bill, SB 280, revises Montana vital records laws regarding the amendment of sex designation on birth certificates. The bill provides that the designation of the sex of a person on a death certificate may be amended only if DPHHS receives a certified copy of an order from a court of law indicating that the sex of the deceased person has been changed by surgical procedure. SB 280 expressly removed previous regulation language that allowed for amendment of birth certificate gender designations when requested. In keeping with the hot summer theme, the public comments provided on this portion of the rulemaking were a little fiery.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this thought. I know many of our members are working extra hard at this time to provide services now to families who were unable to hold services for their loved ones as a result of the pandemic. This dedication on your part demonstrates first-hand all the good that MFDA's members and associate members do. I encourage you to reflect on your role in making Montana the 'last best place.'

Jim

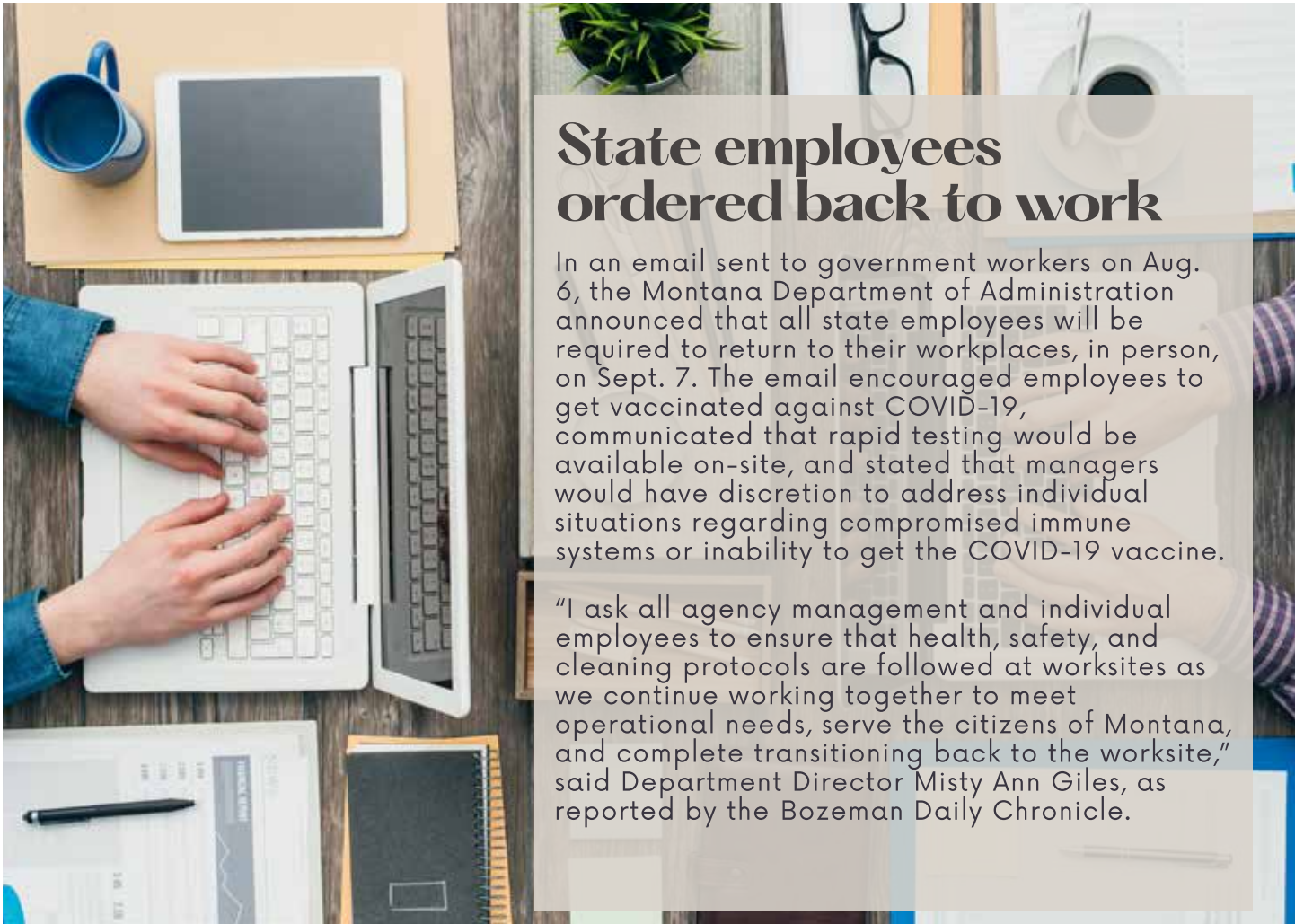


FEMA

1 Billion in funeral assistance funds provided to grieving families. Over 150,000 individuals and the average award amount was \$6,558.

Prior to COVID, the highest amount awarded was \$2,400, and amounted to only 11 Million over the past decade.

FEMA leadership asked to pass on their gratitude to every funeral director in the nation and to the NFDA leadership.



State employees ordered back to work

In an email sent to government workers on Aug. 6, the Montana Department of Administration announced that all state employees will be required to return to their workplaces, in person, on Sept. 7. The email encouraged employees to get vaccinated against COVID-19, communicated that rapid testing would be available on-site, and stated that managers would have discretion to address individual situations regarding compromised immune systems or inability to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

"I ask all agency management and individual employees to ensure that health, safety, and cleaning protocols are followed at worksites as we continue working together to meet operational needs, serve the citizens of Montana, and complete transitioning back to the worksite," said Department Director Misty Ann Giles, as reported by the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.

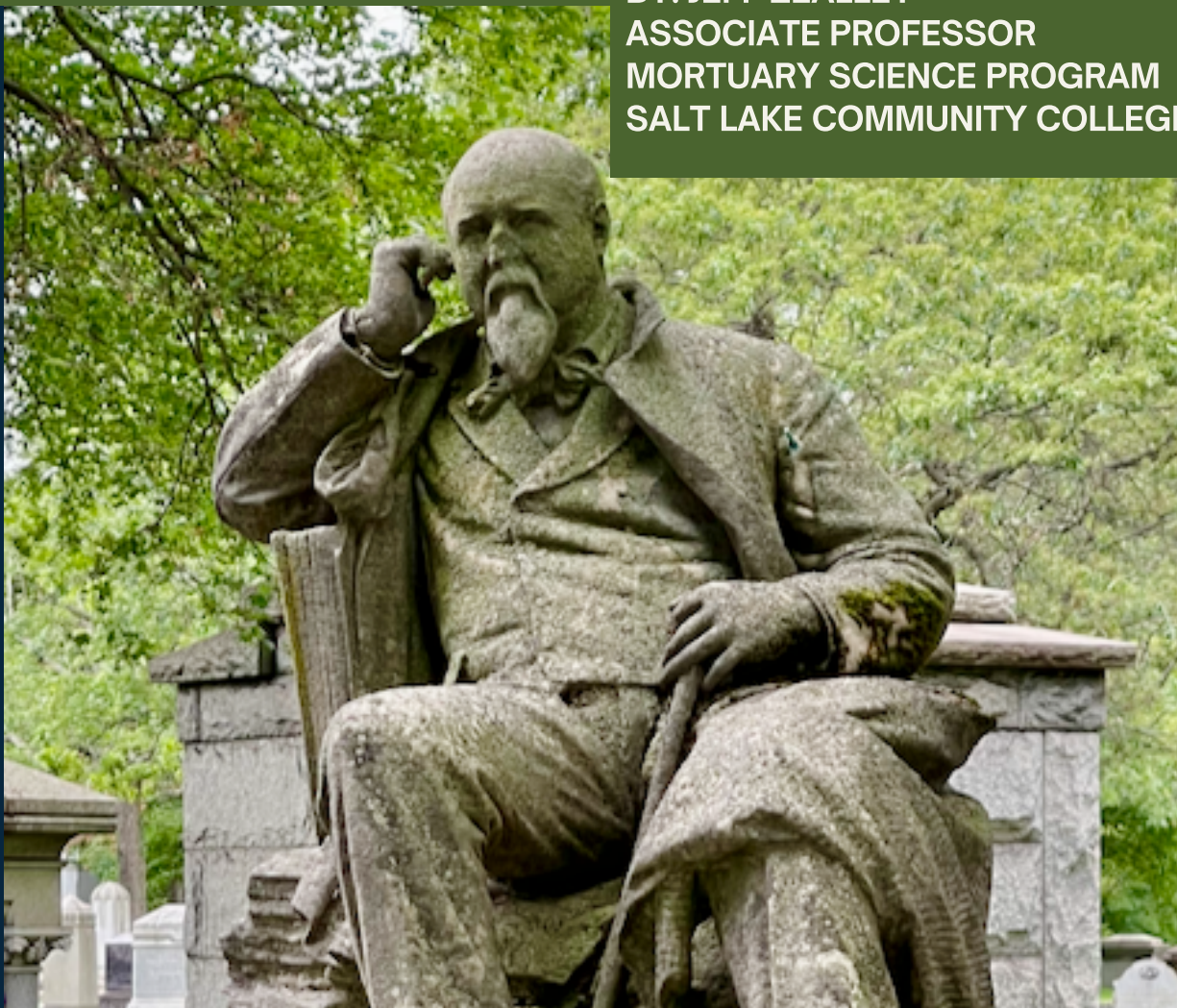


MEMORIAL
— MONUMENTS —

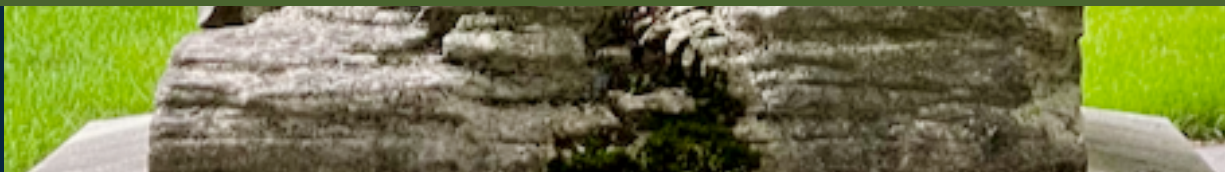
THE TOMBSTONE TOURIST BY JEFF ZEALLEY

I am a taphophile, or, in less impressive language, a tombstone tourist. Before I travel, I always go online to dig around for cemeteries to visit. To me, cemeteries are not just hallowed grounds for those who have died. They are also outdoor art museums, places of historical education, and somber reminders of the fragility of life.

BY: JEFF ZEALLEY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
MORTUARY SCIENCE PROGRAM
SALT LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



In July this year, my wife and I took a road trip from Utah to Ohio. We, meaning me while my wife very patiently waited (or slumbered) in the car, explored gardens of stone – over two dozen cemeteries to be more precise. Allow me to share with you a small portion of what I saw and learned between Chicago and Cleveland



In Chicago, I saw a great variety of sculpted figures including pondering men, a woman at rest with her infant, several children, some protected under plexiglass shields, mysterious looking individuals (7), a knight carved in stone (8), and a young man in bronze, playing his flute (9). Baseball Hall of Famer, Ernie Banks (10), who said, "It's a great day for a ball game. Let's play two!" rests in Graceland Cemetery.

I happened upon the grave of Irish immigrant, George B. Armstrong (11), founder of the Railway Mail Service in the United States, the first of three significant communications pioneers I would encounter.





Cemeteries provide a place for people to be remembered, if only by name.



The last grave I visited in Chicago has a simple bronze marker. Under it lie the remains of Emmett L. Till, the young Black boy murdered in Mississippi in 1955 while visiting family. If you are not aware of Emmett's story or the role his funeral played in the Civil Rights movement, I highly encourage you to watch the documentary on YouTube (<https://youtu.be/7uTtNnCw69w>).



Continued on page 12

Turn Your Life's Work into a Proud Legacy



Let us help you prepare for the next stage of life with business succession and estate planning support.



It's Our Business to Protect Yours
FEDERATED
INSURANCE



Scan to read our latest article on a life and disability insurance topic impacting business leaders.



Commercial Insurance
Property & Casualty | Life & Disability Income
Workers Compensation | Bonding
Business Succession and Estate Planning
**Federated Mutual Insurance Company
and its subsidiaries***
federatedinsurance.com
21.02 Ed. 1/21 | *Not licensed in all states.
© 2020 Federated Mutual Insurance Company



MEMORIAL

— MONUMENTS —



As The endorsed MFDA merchant service provider Select Bankcard can offer:

- Preferred pricing for MFDA members
- Complete confidentiality
- No additional fees
- Buyout of current contract
- In-house merchant support

Sign up with Select Bankcard and receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card

Help bring revenue into the MFDA by contacting us for a free rate analysis today!

Robert Sumsion

Wk: 801.901.8144

Cell:801.885.4852

rsumsion@selectbankcard.com



"It was really easy to set-up and we had no issues at all. We're very happy with Select bankcard."

Jacqui Courts - Medallion Vault & Casket Co.

A new way to do business.

- ✓ Freely book cemetery and crematory services anytime
- ✓ Expand your service area by creating new partnerships
- ✓ Save time and stress with easy to use webforms

with byondcloud
the online marketplace for Funeral Homes

Sign up for free at opusxenta.com

OpusXenta™



Trust Wisely



MONTANA
FUNERAL TRUST

When it comes to serving your families, trust Montana Funeral Trust.

- Funds are 100% government-backed
- Quarterly audit ensuring investments are fully secure and properly managed
- 24/7 online access, convenient forms make the Trust consumer-friendly

Take advantage of this exclusive MFDA member benefit!

mft@montanafuneraltrust.org | 844.206.0049 | www.montanafuneraltrust.org

Emmett Till's Death Inspired a Movement



The alleged teasing of white store clerk Carolyn Bryant by the 14 year-old African American Emmett Till led to his brutal murder at the hands of Bryant's husband Roy and his half-brother, J.W. Milam, forcing the American public to grapple with the menace of violence in the Jim Crow South. According to court documents, Till, who was visiting family for the summer in Money, Mississippi, from Chicago, purchased two-cents worth of bubble gum from the Bryant Grocery store and said, "Bye, baby" over his shoulder to Carolyn Bryant as he exited the store.

That night Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam ran into Emmett's uncle's home where he was staying, dragged Till from his bed, beat him to the point of disfigurement, and shot him before tossing his body into the Tallahatchie River with a cotton-gin fan attached with barbed wire laced to his neck to weigh him down. Bryant and Milam maintained their innocence and would eventually be acquitted of the murder by an all-white, all male jury. They later sold their story for \$4,000 to Look magazine— bragging about the murder as a form of Southern justice implemented to protect white womanhood.

For African Americans, the murder of Till was evidence of the decades-old codes of violence exacted upon Black men and women for breaking the rules of white supremacy in the Deep South. Particularly for Black males, who found themselves under constant threat of attack or death for sexual advances towards white women – mostly imagined – Till's murder reverberated a need for immediate change. Carolyn Bryant testified in court that Till had grabbed her hand, and after she pulled away, he followed her behind the counter, clasped her waist, and using vulgar language, told her that he had been with white women before. At 82, some 60 years later, Bryant, confessed to Duke University professor Timothy B. Tyson that she had lied about this entire event.

Members of Citizens' Councils (white supremacist civic organizations that used public policy and electoral power to reinforce Jim Crow), celebrated the acquittal, further threatening those who had testified against Bryant and Milam and members of the local NAACP. But rather than bending to the intimidation and psychic horror caused by the savage murder, Till's family, along with national newspapers and civil rights organizations – including the NAACP used his death to strike a blow against racial injustice and terrorism.

A boycott of the Bryant Grocery caused its closure shortly after the trial, and the the Bryants and Milam moved to Texas. Till's mother, Mamie Till Mobley insisted on an open-casket at his funeral services – which were attended by more than 50,000 people and chronicled by Jet magazine. The photo of Till with his mother earlier that year alongside Jet's photo of his mutilated corpse horrified the nation and became a catalyst for the burgeoning civil rights movement.

One hundred days after Till's murder, Rosa Parks, refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery city bus and was arrested for violating Alabama's bus segregation laws. Reverend Jesse Jackson told Vanity Fair (1988) that "Rosa said she thought about going to the back of the bus. But then she thought about Emmett Till and she couldn't do it."





During our journey, we saw a few Civil War cemeteries, some for Union soldiers and others for Confederate soldiers who died while imprisoned by the Union. The Union and Confederate soldiers were not buried together, understandably. The Confederate Stockade Cemetery is located on Johnson's Island, a 300-acre island on Lake Erie near Sandusky, OH.



Born: July 8, 1839
Died: May 23, 1937

Lake View Cemetery in Cleveland, is the city's most well-known and is the "residence" of several notable figures, including **John D. Rockefeller**. His grave is marked by a 70-foot-tall obelisk, the tallest marker in the cemetery.

I would rather hire a man with enthusiasm, than a man who knows everything.

John D. Rockefeller American business magnate and philanthropist

Net worth: \$340 billion



Entombed in a large and impressive memorial is **President James A. Garfield** who was assassinated shortly after taking office. One of his campaign supporters turned assassin when President Garfield refused to appoint him as the ambassador to France. However, it was not the bullet that killed the president. Rather, it was the subsequent infection caused by the dirty and meddling fingers of the doctors who tried to probe for the bullet, unaware of the necessity to sterilize their hands. The president's casket and that of his wife can be seen in the lower section of the memorial.





As you are well-aware, obelisks of all sizes can be found, sometimes in abundance, in cemeteries everywhere. Part of what I enjoy most about visiting cemeteries is seeing something I've never seen before. It was at Lake View where I saw what I would call a modified obelisk. Its design makes it stand out and is superbly beautiful, both because of the sculpted design near the base but more so due to the tapered design rather than the pyramidal top as seen on other obelisks.

Also buried at Lake View is another communications giant, Jephtha Wade, founder of Western Union Telegraph, who also was the first president of Lake View Cemetery. The Wade Chapel was built in his honor and is adorned with Tiffany glass inside. The chapel was the first building in Cleveland to have electric light. Louis Tiffany insisted on electric light before installing the glass in order to protect the beautiful glass from smoke that would have been generated by oil lamps. The glass was installed by women (another of Tiffany's demands) because of their ability to handle the small pieces better than men.



One of Lake View's most striking sites is the Haserot Angel also known as the Weeping Angel because of the weathering on the bronze figure's face.



Alan Freed, who coined the phrase, "rock and roll," is another occupant at Lake View.



The cemetery is also home to a memorial to the 172 children, two teachers, and one rescuer who died in the 1908 Collinwood School Fire.

The Collinwood school fire (also known as the Lakeview School fire) was a major disaster that occurred at the Lake View School in Collinwood, Ohio, when a fire erupted on March 4, 1908, killing 172 students, two teachers and one rescuer in one of the deadliest school disasters in United States history.



Also wandering the hills of Lake View is a caped woman bearing a vessel.



Riverside Cemetery in Cleveland has the most engraved headstone I've ever seen. The front, back, sides, and top of the monument's base have been laser etched with dozens of religious and other symbols, family photos, writings, planets, other astronomical depictions, and a variety of other items. The top of the polished black granite headstone is blank so there's still room to add more. The only thing missing from Thomas Baran's marker is the death date – he's still with us!



A stone inscribed with "They gave in death for those in life" marks the final resting place of those who donated their bodies to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

"Some say a person is only dead when there is no one left alive who remembers them."

Cemeteries provide a place for people to be remembered, if only by name. As the rates of scattering cremated remains increase, I fear more and more people will "die" sooner than they have in the past. Perhaps cemeteries ought to create memorial walls, such as the one I saw in the cremation garden at Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago to help preserve the memory of those who have walked among us.

Article and photographs by Jeff Zealley, jeff@zmort.com



Bullis Mortuary

Est. 1914.

History

John Wellington Bullis moved to Hardin, Montana from Cody, Wyoming in 1914 and purchased the Johnson Mortuary. John had several uncles in funeral service in Nebraska and South Dakota and received his education at the Philadelphia School of Mortuary Science and graduated in 1909. He was licensed in Nebraska, South Dakota, and Montana. John and Lucilla Bullis raised four sons and one daughter in Hardin and only John Everett Bullis continued in funeral service.



REO Hearse 1919

Similar to the 1922 REO Hearse owned by Bullis

In 1922 John purchased his first motorized hearse a used REO from a funeral home in Livingston, Montana. It was light grey in color with sculptured designs on both sides. The REO became hard to start on cold winter days. It was long before anti-freeze so they would drain the water out of the radiator and engine. The next time they would need to use the hearse, they would have to fill it with water. Since it took time to get it running John wouldn't turn it off. Once the pallbearers removed the casket he would drive the car a short distance so that the engine running wouldn't disturb the funeral.

A replica of the original mortuary was placed at the Big Horn County Museum in 2016 and is the depository of many items from the mortuary including a wicker removal casket, the side curtains from the first motorized hearse an REO, embalming machine, printing press, and various other items related to funeral service.



side curtains from REO Hearse

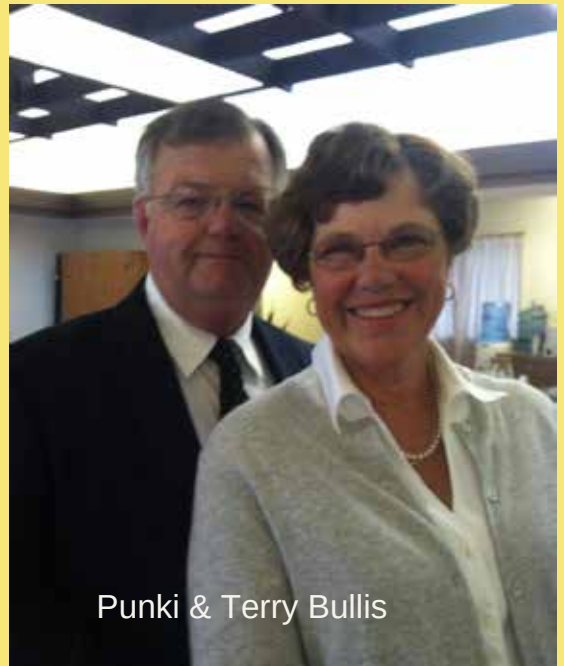




John And Lucille Bullis
50th Wedding Anniversary



Bullis Family



Punki & Terry Bullis

Everett returned from serving in World War II and attended the St. Louis School of Mortuary Science and held license #40 from 1948 to 2018. Everett purchased ownership of the mortuary in 1948. He and his wife Bea raised their son and two daughters in Hardin. Their son Terry graduated from the University of Montana in 1970 and entered the San Francisco College of Mortuary Science and graduated in 1971.

Terry and his wife "Punki" returned to Hardin where Terry followed in his father and grandfather's footsteps at the Bullis Mortuary. Terry and Punki raised their son and two daughters in Hardin. Their daughter Kristi Greenfield is employed at Bullis Mortuary as office manager and monument salesperson.

The mortuary operated Bullis Ambulance Service from the 1920s until 1974 when Big Horn County assumed the operation. John, Everett, and Terry all served as Big Horn County Coroner. Terry retired in 2020.

So many practices have changed over the 107 years of the operation. The mortuary began serving the Crow Reservation in the 1930s when caskets were left in buildings at specific sites. When a death occurred, a casket was taken and the name was written on a piece of paper. The BIA was billed about every six months for the caskets used. It was not until the 1950's that the Crow people began to have embalming and come into the mortuary to make arrangements. The information sheets have gone from John's beautifully penned ones to Everett's manual typed to computers on everyone's desk. Thank goodness the printing press folders were replaced by customized computer-generated folders. No one misses picking type.

The Bullis family have been active members of the Hardin and Big Horn County community since 1914. John was a charter member of the Hardin Volunteer Fire Department and Terry served as Assistant Chief of the department for 25 years. Everett was active in the American Legion and Masonic organizations including the Big Horn Shrine Club and Kiwanis International. Terry served as Chairman of the Big Horn County Hospital Board until recently and continues to serve as a board member.



Everett served as President of the MFDA in 1968 and Terry in 1978. Bullis Mortuary has been a member of the Selected Independent Funeral Homes since 1968.



Everett Bullis was recognized in June 2018 by the Montana Funeral Directors' Association (MFDA) for his 70 years as a licensed funeral director. He was elected MFDA President in 1968.



1923-2019



THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION PROVIDES SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE THAT HUMAN REMAINS ARE DISPOSED OF IN A MANNER THAT PRESERVES THE DIGNITY AND CHOICES OF THE PATIENT OR NEXT OF KIN. THE INDUSTRY HAS BEEN LARGELY UNREGULATED AND SADLY MANY FAMILIES HAVE BEEN EXPLOITED FOR PROFIT. OUR BILL GIVES FAMILY MEMBERS THE PEACE OF MIND OF KNOWING THAT THEIR WISHES ARE BEING HONORED.

REP. GUS BILIRAKIS (R-FL)
CO-SPONSOR OF THE CDRI ACT

H.R.4062 - CONSENSUAL DONATION AND RESEARCH INTEGRITY ACT OF 2021



PROTECT THE DIGNITY OF THOSE WHO DONATE THEIR BODIES FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH AND GIVE PEACE OF MIND TO FAMILIES

When a family chooses to donate a loved one's body for education or research, they do so with the hope that they will help others. Regrettably, many are unknowingly contributing to a for-profit industry in which the body of their loved one could be traded as raw material in a largely unregulated national market. With the introduction of the Consensual Donation and Research Integrity Act of 2021 (H.R. 4062; CDRI Act) in the House, which has the full support of NFDA, Congress is taking a significant step toward protecting the dignity of donors and offering peace of mind to families.

[HTTPS://NFDA.ORG/ADVOCACY/CURRENT-LEGISLATION](https://nfda.org/advocacy/current-legislation)

2021 FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS



OCTOBER 25
BILLINGS-NORTHERN HOTEL
FALL DISTRICT MEETING -LIVE 2 CE
6:00-9:00
COCKTAILS, DINNER, MEETING

OCTOBER 27
MISSOULA-COURTYARD MARRIOTT
FALL DISTRICT MEETING -LIVE 2 CE
6:00-9:00
COCKTAILS, DINNER, MEETING



Featuring in-person
DOMINICK ASTORINO

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WELCOME
RSVP INFO@MONTANAFDA.ORG**



Hunter Keller \$2,500.00 Winner

Dennis Schoepp Memorial
Scholarship

Preference will be given to students from MONTANA who INTEND to return to MONTANA after graduation to work in funeral service, and who are also affiliated with a Montana Funeral Directors Association Member Firm (MFDA). In addition to Foundation submission requirements, students interested in the Dennis Schoepp Memorial Scholarship must also submit a letter of reference/support from an MFDA Member Firm to MFDA (info@montananfda.org).

*next submission cycle opens
September 15 – November 1*

A native Montanan, I traveled the world full-time for 15 years as a Professional Square Dance Caller. I was blessed to make many friendships and grow as a person.

While traveling all over, I was fortunate to be able to talk with people from all walks of life and all different ages. While I enjoyed this profession, I wanted something more. In 2014, my grandmother passed away. At the funeral home, my mother and I were setting up memorabilia in the chapel. My father was talking to Barry Brekhus, the funeral director that has helped our family each time we have lost someone. Barry had mentioned that he was looking for some help and my father suggested that Barry approach me.

I began helping with services and removals and was always impressed how Barry and the staff at Michelotti-Sawyers assisted the families through one of the most difficult times in their lives.

I decided that I wanted to explore this career path more. The more that I helped with services, the more I appreciated the Funeral Service Profession. In 2020, I began attending Arapahoe Community College working towards my Mortuary Science Degree. I believe that hard work and perseverance pays off. I have finally found the career that is right for me. I look forward to my future in the funeral service profession.

I decided that I wanted to explore this career path more. The more that I helped with services, the more I appreciated the Funeral Service Profession

Hunter is a student member of MFDA



Howdy! That was always the first word to come out of Tyson's mouth when he greeted people. Tyson Gene Haycock entered this world on the 21st of August, 2000 at the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls, Idaho. His parents Dustin Gene Haycock and Jessica Christina Adams would later give him a sister and a brother. Natalie and Caiden, whom he loved dearly.

Tyson's greatest joys were hunting with his family, volunteering at the Vet, playing and listening to music, caring for our dogs Jerzey, Copper, and Rocco and his cat Chirp. Those animals were his greatest pride and joy. He loved his mission more than anything else as he was serving the Lord and gaining his own testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Even though he only served a few weeks in New Mexico, he fell in love with his mission and especially his companions Elder Britton Jeremie Berrett and Elder Michael Austin Davis. Tyson is continuing his service to the Lord on the other side of the veil alongside his companion Elder Davis.

Our brother Tyson was very outgoing, caring, and very very stubborn. Not a day went by when he didn't do some act of service whether it be helping our neighbors, helping mom with work, cooking and baking for our family, or helping his little sister with her car troubles and all of her gardening needs. In fact, he insisted and was eager to do these things. Starting from a young age, he had a love for music. You would not find him without at least one earbud in his ear. We would often play "Guess the Song" as a family together as music is such an important aspect in our family. We would also have competitions seeing who could get the bigger deer. Tyson had his years where he was close to getting the biggest deer, but Caiden would always show him up. He would always take care of skinning it though. Tyson would still say he's the better hunter. He would not leave the house without a sharp knife and would often be found sharpening one of his many knives. He loved nature and everything that came with it. He'd often chase Natalie with snakes, frogs, toads, and even a quail that he found in our yard. He loved making people laugh and smile and could tell when someone needed a pick-me-up. He loved being with his best friend "Pipsqueak" McKinsey Jerrel which included getting their cherished pedicures.

If you didn't find him helping out mom or working around the house, then you would find him working on his many projects, his last of which being a bow. But at the end of the day, family and friends were most important to him.

Tyson was greeted on the other side of the veil on the 22nd of July 2021 by his grandmother Darlene Adams, great-grandparents Wayne and Alice Anne Christensen, great-grandparents Jim and Mabel Adams, grandfather Donald Haycock, grandmother Carla Vasquez, great grandparents Deral and Margie Haycock, great-grandmother June Haycock, great-grandparents James and Ruby Jennings, uncle Timothy Haycock, and aunt Jody Longie. We know that families can be together forever and hold fast to that knowledge.

Tyson is terribly missed by his parents Dustin and Jessica Haycock, sisters Natalie and Calista, brother Caiden, grandparents Jon and Suzie Adams, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Thank you to all of those who showed their love to Tyson in the Idaho, Oregon, Montana, New Mexico and Utah areas.

Family received friends on Thursday, July 29, 2021 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home. Funeral services were held on Friday, July 30, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints in Miles City. Interment will follow in the Custer County Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.stevensonandsons.com.

Tyson loved animals, please, if desired, donate to your local animal shelter in honor of him.

*city of music
Nashville*

Sponsors

PRECOA

FEDERATED
INSURANCE

**Hosted MFDA Dinner
Kayne Prime-Nashville**

October 18

6:30

[rsvp info@montanafda.org](mailto:info@montanafda.org)

JOIN US IN

MUSIC CITY

NASHVILLE

2021 NFDA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION & EXPO
OCTOBER 17-20, 2021
NASHVILLE, TN