



ROYAL OAK BURIAL PARK

WHERE MEMORIES LIVE FOREVER

NATURAL BURIAL – HYBRID SERVICE

Natural (or green) burial is regarded as a statement of personal values for those who seek to minimize their impact on the local and global environment.

Natural burial is an environmentally sensitive practice where human remains are returned to the earth to decompose naturally and contribute to new life.

Human remains are prepared for natural burial without embalming and are buried in a biodegradable casket or alternative container made from sustainable wood, wicker, recycled cardboard or natural fiber.

The Burial Park operates dedicated natural burial zones called the Woodlands. Some families, wanting natural burial, may not prefer Woodlands sites because of operational limitations placed on lot selection, memorialization, visitation or other personal considerations.

In this circumstance the option of a 'hybrid' form of natural burial is available for any standard interment lot in the Burial Park. A 'hybrid' natural burial is accommodated as follows:

1. Remains are prepared for burial without embalming and clothed or wrapped in garments made of natural, fully biodegradable fabric.
2. Remains are buried in a biodegradable casket or alternative container made from sustainable wood, wicker, recycled cardboard or natural fiber.
3. The grave is opened as per standard practice, but the soil remains beside the grave during the interment service (not transported away as per conventional interment).
4. A concrete grave liner is mandatory but for a 'hybrid' natural burial a liner without a bottom is used. This permits direct contact of the remains with the earth.
5. Prior to placement of the liner cap the family have the option to have (and participate in) the liner space, now occupied by the remains, being filled with soil.
6. After the liner cap is placed the gravesite soil is replaced into the grave. The family may participate in this filling process also.
7. Following interment the sod is placed, a standard flower vase installed and the family has the option to place a permanent memorial.

For 'hybrid' natural burial the fees for lots and services are those set out in the Burial Park Schedule of Rates for the interment location used. The maintenance, memorialization and visitation of hybrid interment sites are subject to the rules and regulations for the interment location used.