

1. Article published in "50+Plus Magazine," May 2005, Myrtle Beach, SC.

A New Birth: The Chapel of Remembrance

There is something sacred about a place where life and death meet. The tomb claims distinction in mans world as a place set apart from the noise of daily life out of reverence and respect. The holy homes of the dead range from simple to complex crossing the borders of time and culture. They range in diversity from the catacombs of Rome to the ancient Indian burial grounds in Peru, from the pyramids of ancient Egypt to the simple cave tombs in Jerusalem, and from the first mausoleum at Halicarnassus to the modern-day chapel mausoleums throughout America. This consecrated setting-apart evolves from the desire to create a place of sanctity, loveliness, and remembering for those we cherish. This desire pays tribute to the heart we have and the love we share in the form of a sacred site.

The newest sacred site in our area for this type of remembering is aptly titled The Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum. It is a massive and elegant structure that will stand over 100 feet wide and 2 stories tall once completed. The Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum project at Southeastern Memorial Gardens is unlike any other community mausoleum in South Carolina. The building will consist of a glass-front, reaching from floor to ceiling, framed by polished granite and elegant marble, and will sit facing out over a small lake. It will contain over 700 crypts and 108 cremation niches when finished and will be surrounded by a serene garden area replete with statuary and granite benches. It is, without a doubt, the most ambitious project

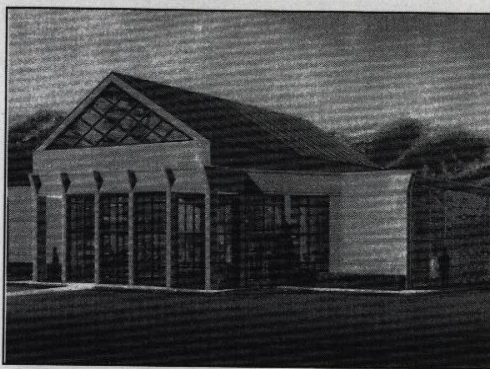
of any local cemetery to date in the area.

The Chapel of Remembrance project is also a unique endeavor in the cemetery industry today. It is not born from a need for additional burial space or to provide yet another "option" to an already option-weary

mous white marble tomb was built for the Persian provincial king, Maussollos, due to his wife Artemisia's concept and design. The love she felt for him was expressed in her desire to build an elegant tomb for him. Maussollos was not a remarkable man in any way, but he

evolved from love and the desire to see love expressed. Final approval and licensure by the zoning and building departments of North Myrtle Beach was received last week and construction is underway. Perimeters are staked, foundation grading has started, and a complete team of builders will be on-site within the coming days. Physical construction is in progress, and an "official" groundbreaking ceremony is planned for April.

The Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum continues the legacy of love building something that becomes sacred from that creative love and memory. The name commemorating the love which founded the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus continues in a new form, bearing an architectural heir, thousands of years later. The new birth at Southeastern Memorial Gardens, of an architectural child descended from the parentage of Maussollos and Artemisia, proves to be an exciting and joyous occasion.



consumer. Its birth comes due to a reverence for the love that dwells in the human spirit as well as in the Divine. The goal is to provide a place of artistic elegance where the beloved of those gone can find quiet moments for prayer, communing and remembering. In this goal, the Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum steps back in time to claim kinship with the person and relationship that brought the word mausoleum into our language – King Maussollos, his wife Artemisia, and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus.

The Mausoleum at Halicarnassus was built around 350 B.C. in what is now modern-day Turkey. The enor-

was a man beloved and precious to his wife. The beauty of the tomb, with its varying levels decorated in life-size statues, made it one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The grandeur of the tomb became known throughout the ancient cities, and in time the name Maussollos, eventually becoming "mausoleum," evolved into the common name for a large and elegant tomb. A wife's love created the building that would become the namesake for all those to follow, and her devoted efforts imprinted the name of her beloved husband on architecture and history forever.

The Chapel of Remembrance Mausoleum project is a building that

For further information on the Chapel of Remembrance project, please contact Southeastern Memorial Gardens at (843)-272-5267.

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2. Creative Writing/Promotions. Essay from company newsletter "HeartSongs," winter 2004, North Myrtle Beach, SC.

Dreaming: To Do Some Good Thing . . . To Do Our Best

M. Colleen Mullins

*God hides some ideal in every human soul.
At some time in our life we feel a trembling,
fearful longing to do some good thing.
Life finds its noblest spring of excellence in
this hidden impulse to do our best.*

— Robert Collyer

When I was a little girl and awoke with nightmares, my grandpa would tell me stories about the "old days" until I fell asleep again. He explained that dreams could be good or bad and that imagination worked that way. The stories he told were fanciful and wonderful to me. My favorites were those about grandpa and my uncle Waymon . . .

There was one about the time they went camping and had to hide in barrels to escape hungry bears, and then they watched while the bears ate all the food from their tent. . . and then the one about the time they chased what they thought was a rabbit into the bushes, but it turned out to be a skunk, or "pole-cat," and my grandpa had to walk home carrying his clothes on the end of a pole. My grandfather's gift for imagining and dreaming made my childhood a more interesting and amazing place.

My grandfather, Harvey, was born in 1895 and he lived during the World War and Depression eras. He used to say that America and her people were built on dreams and he always encouraged me to "dream in colors, big and bold." My grandfather believed that dreams were a powerful way to step into the possibilities of life. He was a God-fearing Christian who believed that creativity was a gift from above. That to dream, aspire, create was a connective commonality shared by the Creator and His creation. My grandfather raised me to believe that God was the author of dreams and that dreams could become a reality if you believed in them and worked hard to bring them to fruition.

As an adult, I believe that all things are a gift from above, especially dreams. I believe that dreaming is made up of imagination, hard work, creativity, and passion. Southeastern Memorial Gardens epitomizes those things for me. It is a small company made up of imaginative individuals who are passionate about their jobs, willing to work hard, and who feel kindness and compassion toward the members of their community. Southeastern Memorial Gardens is the combined dreaming of several unique individuals made whole, alive, and active in the world.

The original owner and founder of SMG, Mr. Leamon Todd, dreamed of building a perpetual care cemetery in what was a vast, empty area outside of Myrtle Beach known as the Windy Hill or Crescent Beach section. Mr. Todd dreamed of a lovely, garden-style cemetery that would bring beauty to the area, provide up-scale burial options to residents, and serve as a caring and gentle company in the local community. He pictured tranquil gardens, meaningful statues, flowering trees surrounding a calm lake, and a timeless chapel mausoleum called the Shrine of the Good Shepherd. He pictured all of this while the area was still farm dirt surrounded by swamp. He saw something no one else could see, and he had a dream that became a reality in the believing.

The power and vision of Mr. Todd's dream opened the doors to the new cemetery, Southeastern Memorial Gardens, in 1960. The Shrine of the Good Shepherd mausoleum was completed in 1967 and many of the founders of North Myrtle Beach are en-

tombed within her walls. The lovely garden areas of SMG mingle with statues, walkways, and a lake surrounded by Myrtle trees. SMG is the final resting place of many dignitaries — a SC Governor and previous area Mayors are interred here — as well as many people from the older historic families and the newer transplant residents. Southeastern Memorial Gardens, like most dreams, has grown, changed, and evolved throughout the last 45 years.

In 1996, Mr. Rick Kipp, another man with ideas and dreams, bought the property. Mr. Kipp's vision for the property involved providing options that weren't readily available in the area. He knew that cremation and entombment were becoming a more popular choice for people, but SMG and the other area cemeteries offered little in the way of personal cremation and entombment alternatives. He dreamed of a day when Southeastern Memorial Gardens would provide more creative options for the community members preferring cremation and entombment.

Mr. Kipp's vision of more diverse options has materialized in stages across the SMG property. First, the Footprints Statue and cremation garden area was added in 1999. This area offered various cremation options such as scattering, natural rock inurnment, and specialized memorial plaques. Then, the round granite columbarium area with sidewalks was added in 2000 to provide individual and companion niches in an outdoor setting. Finally, the most majestic and recent addition to the property consists of the new Chapel of Remembrance mausoleum. The CRM project was conceived in 2002 and, with construction starting in the coming weeks, completion of phase one is expected by mid-2005. The CRM project is another precious milestone in the history of dreaming things into being that characterizes Southeastern Memorial Gardens.

The unbroken legacy of imagining, believing, and following dreams continues at SMG as we enter the newborn year of 2005. We, the owner and staff of SMG, continue to dream of being a company that truly touches people and their lives in positive and compassionate ways. We excitedly await the groundbreaking of the CRM project, while continuing to dream new dreams and make new plans for continued growth, betterment, and further development of the property. The new Garden of Prayer area — featuring a fountain, Greco-roman statues, Private Estate mausoleums, and specialized family estate areas — is another project in the works that will develop during the coming year. Special landscaped areas are already being developed, and more are on the way as older bushes will be trimmed or removed and new flower areas and bench and walkway areas will be created. Our outreach and involvement in the community will also continue and grow as we participate in the AHA Heart Ball on February 5th and as we promote and host the second-annual Celebrate Life Charity Concert on April 30th.

We are a company made up of people who dream, hope, care, and take pride in doing our best for our clients and the community each and every day. We seek to exemplify beauty, elegance, compassion, and kindness . . . We strive to do some good thing each day when we come to work . . . We commit to doing our best for you every day when we come to work. Remember to "dream in colors, big and bold!" May God protect and prosper each of you in the coming new year!

Blessings,
Colleen

3. Interview/Research Writing. Cover articles for company newsletter, "HeartSongs," March 2004.

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Catalinas to Perform at "Celebrate Life" Concert

Most people don't think of a cemetery as the ideal place for a concert. But Southeastern Memorial Gardens thinks it's the perfect place for one. The first annual SMG Easter Extravaganza, "Celebrate Life," will be Saturday, April 10th, from 10AM until 6PM on the cemetery grounds in North Myrtle Beach, SC.

The event is being held to raise money for local non-profit organizations — Trey's Way, a charity in Conway, SC that provides wheelchairs to handicapped children and the Waccamaw Chapter of the American Heart Association, which funds research in the local area.

Beach music sensation, The Catalinas, will headline the event, performing at 2

and 4 pm. JD Cash, Sea Cruz and various other acts will perform throughout the day. Free food, a prize raffle, an Easter egg hunt for the children, and a special children's prize drawing are some of the offerings. SMG also says there is a unique announcement and a "special un-veiling" to look forward to. The festivities will end at 5:30 pm with a candlelight prayer service for the American troops overseas and their families.

"Our 15-acre estate, in the heart of the Grand Strand, is the perfect place for a charity concert," said Mr. Rick Kipp, the president of Southeastern Memorial Gardens.

"This event gives us the chance to do something good for others. We've been here

44 years and believe it's time to give something back to the community," he said.

Southeastern Memorial Gardens, "the little cemetery with the big heart," says there will be something for everyone at the event. They're excited about providing a fun-filled day for the people of their community while helping those in need locally.

There is a \$5.00 per adult entry fee that gives you admission to the program and a raffle ticket. Children are admitted free. Parking is located behind and beside the cemetery at Barefoot Landing.

For more information about the event, or to find out about sponsorship opportunities, call (843)-272-5267.

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Special Notices:

- **CELEBRATE LIFE** Easter Event scheduled for April 10th, from 10am–6pm on the back area of our grounds.
- **FIRST OF IT'S KIND IN THE MYRTLE BEACH AREA!** The construction on our new statuary and meditation garden begins in March.
- **COMING SOON!** The groundbreaking Ceremony for our new glass-front mausoleum.

What is Palliative Care and Why Does It Matter To You?

Palliative care is a patient-centered, multi-disciplinary approach to caring for patients with incurable progressive diseases. The palliative care movement seeks to provide the best quality of life for patients and their families during the entire course of a

disease from diagnosis to death. Palliative care gives patients dignified, highly personal end-of-life options.

Many people believe this description of palliative care "is" what medical care during such an illness means. Regretfully, that is not always the case. The

trend in recent years is to focus more on "life-prolonging measures" than "quality-of-life and comfort measures." What distinguishes palliative care from the trend is its focus on the quality of a patient's life and its response to the individuals unique needs.

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