

January 5, 2016

To: New Bern Memorial, Everlasting Monuments, Neuse Memorial Company, Oscar's Monuments & Mortuary, Cotten Funeral Home, Pollock-Best Funeral Home, and Joyner's Memorial (*Mr. Joyner- Please share with Neuse Memorial*)

From: Danny Gennantonio, St. Joseph Cemetery Coordinator/St. Paul Catholic Church Parish

Re: BRONZE MARKERS ALLOWED IN ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY

This is to address the question for the size of Veteran Bronze Plaques allowed in St. Joseph's Cemetery. Ever since our cemetery was established in 1988, a set of 13 rules was decided and written to ensure that our clients would be consistent with their choice of memorials for our private Catholic cemetery. I have attached a copy of these rules which has been given to every client when they initially purchased their plot/plots. All local monument companies have been given a copy of ***Rule Six (Rules Regarding All Permanent Memorials)** ever since I began as Coordinator in 1999. I thought it would be advantageous to give every funeral home and memorial company a copy of all 13 rules.

Since I only began working for the cemetery in 1999, I cannot confirm anything that has or has not occurred in the 11 years prior to my assignment as Cemetery Coordinator. My intent is to give everyone who deals with our cemetery all the information you need to best serve your clients. I may give you more information than you would like; however, please keep what you deem necessary to ensure you and your clients abide by our established rules.

YOU WILL NOTE THAT *NO. 5 UNDER RULE SIX STATES THAT "ALL CREMATION MEMORIALS MUST BE OF THE FLAT BRONZE 12 X 12 INCHES WITH 16 X 16 INCH GEORGIA MARBLE BASE. The January 4, 2016 sheet that was sent to all of you also states this information. We are sorry to say that neither of the Veterans Plaques will work on our Cremation Plots. The 24 x 12 Veteran Plaque is too large because it is meant for full body graves, and the 8.5 x 5.5 is too small because it is made for Crematorium niches.

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY HONORS OUR VETERANS: As of Memorial Day 2015 when we placed flags on all veterans' graves, we had 187 veterans buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery (48 in cremation plots and 139 in regular graves). As both my wife and I are USAF Korean War Veterans, the Gennantonio family personally purchased a large American flag and a 32 foot flag pole (27 feet above ground) and family members erected it in December 2012. The bronze plaque honoring all veterans was purchased later by our local Knights of Columbus and placed on a base built by two brother knights. We also have 7 various military flags permanently erected to honor all of our veterans.

We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our St. Joseph's Cemetery Staff is looking forward to working with you and our clients throughout 2016. If you have questions or need clarification about anything, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely in Christ,

Danny Gennantonio, St. Joseph Cemetery Coordinator