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# **Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery Celebrates 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Evergreen, final resting place of pioneers and notable figures, was first in Southern Arizona to have a mortuary and cemetery on the same property

**TUCSON, Ariz.** (October 23, 2017) – Did you know Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery (Evergreen) is the third oldest business in Tucson? Evergreen, one of NorthStar Memorial Group's flagship locations, has been providing funeral, cemetery and cremation services for families in Tucson for 110 years. To commemorate this anniversary milestone, Evergreen will host a free community event on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. Activities include a lecture on cemetery art, guided historical tours by the Arizona Historical Society and complimentary refreshments.

# **Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery: By the Numbers**

Average annual visitors: ~100,000

Property acreage: 120 (62 developed)

Number of interments: ~100,000

# **History**

In the early 1900s, Tucson was growing rapidly and the city passed an ordinance that no additional burials were allowed within city limits. On July 15, 1907, Evergreen Cemetery was founded just two miles north of town. During that same time, a considerable number of Tucson's oldest residents were re-interred from the city's main cemetery and the Presidio

Cemetery to Evergreen. Even today, the remains of many pioneers from old ranch sites and homesteads are interred at Evergreen.

The Addison family took ownership of Evergreen in 1960 and in 1974 made Evergreen the first mortuary-cemetery combination in Southern Arizona. In 2014, NorthStar Memorial Group bought the 120-acre property and still oversees it today.

"Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery has provided families from all backgrounds with a sense of peace, tranquility and comfort for 110 years," said Peter Callaghan, general manager at Evergreen. "The Evergreen team remains committed to meeting and exceeding the needs of the Tucson community. We continue to support people of diverse faiths and financial means in finding the right burial and memorialization options for their loved ones."

#### The Grounds

The facilities at Evergreen Mortuary are designed to ensure a comfortable, dignified environment. Evergreen's non-denominational chapel is used for large visitations, traditional and non-traditional services and gatherings. The wall of windows overlooking the garden and grounds offers a peaceful atmosphere.

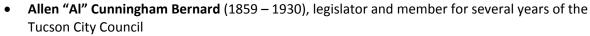


Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery in Tucson, Arizona

Evergreen also serves as a popular stopover for migratory birds attracted to the large conifers and broad-lifted trees. Violet-crowned hummingbirds, mountain chickadees and the greater pewees are among the bird varieties that visit Evergreen on a yearly basis.

# **Notable Burials**

- Mary Bernard Aguirre (1844 1906), famous Pioneer woman and first female professor at the University of Arizona
- **John Brackett "Pie" Allen** (1818 1899), American prospector, businessman, and politician
- Jules Verne Allen (1883 1945), authentic and documented cowboy singer and writer
- Mary Storrs Andersen (1880 1946), concert pianist, singer and founder of Sigma Alpha lota at the University of Arizona
- William Henry Barnes (1843 1904), prominent lawyer and judge that helped write the Arizona Constitution
- James Daniel Bailey (1869 1944), Arizona Territorial Ranger
- William Sylvester Bartlett (1851 1938), direct descendant of Josiah Bartlett of New Hampshire
- Thomas G. Beaham (1907 1967), Arizona State Senator, Pima County District 8



- **Noah W. Bernard** (1854 1907), member of the Pima County board supervisors and had a seat in the 1905 legislature
- Rabbi Albert T. Bilgray (1910 1998), worked for desegregation in Tucson public schools, board member of the Tucson Medical Center, and charter member of Tucson's Commission on Human Relations
- Dr. Nelson C. Bledsoe (1976 1974), Chief Surgeon for the Calumet and Arizona mining company in Bisbee
- Charles "Judge" Blenman (1859 1936), established San Xavier Indian Reservation, special assistant to the United States Attorney in Tucson
- Clara Ferrin Bloom (1881 1973), founding member on the board of directors of the Tucson's Women's Symphony Association
- David Walter Bloom (1879 1956), successful businessman, active in the Tucson Rotary, Old Pueblo Club and Tucson Merchants Association

# **Getting There**

Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery is located at 3015 North Oracle Road, in Tucson, Ariz. Gates open at sunrise and close for the evening at sunset, seven days a week. For more information on Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery,



please visit: <a href="https://www.evergreenmortuary-cemetery.com">www.evergreenmortuary-cemetery.com</a> or call (520) 274-2879.



#### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

# Evergreen Mortuary & Cemetery in Tucson Marks 110th Anniversary with Community Celebration

#### WHAT:

Evergreen Mortuary and Cemetery, Tucson's third oldest business, celebrates its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary with free activities for the community on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon. David Leighton, writer of the 'Street Smarts' column for the Arizona Daily Star, gives a talk on Evergreen's history at 9 a.m. Betty Cook from the Arizona Historical Society provides a lecture on cemetery art at 9:15 a.m., and children's face painting will be available throughout the day. Guided historical tours offered by the Arizona Historical Society at 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with stories highlighting the cemetery's history and some of its notable residents. Complimentary food for attendees from local food trucks You Sly Dog, Popped and Chimichangons. Ballots will be available to enter a drawing to win one of two \$110-dollar gift cards to The Cheesecake Factory and Buffalo Wild Wings. The event is free and open to the public.

## WHERE:

Evergreen Memorial Park 3015 North Oracle Road Tucson, AZ 85705

#### WHEN:

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017 9 a.m. – Noon

## WHO:

- Peter Callaghan, Evergreen General Manager
- David Leighton, columnist for the Arizona Daily Star
- Members of the Arizona Historical Society
- Tucson community members

#### **ADMISSION:**

The event is free and open to the public.

**MEDIA, PLEASE NOTE:** Reporters/editors interested in touring the property, receiving high-res images or interviewing Evergreen's General Manager Peter Callaghan, please contact Gus Nodal at (415) 359-2320 or <a href="mailto:gus@landispr.com">gus@landispr.com</a>.

# **ABOUT EVERGREEN MORTUARY & CEMETERY**

For 110 years, Evergreen Mortuary & Cemetery has been part of life for the people of Tucson, providing end-of-life services to families from diverse religious, ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Established in 1907, more than 100,000 interments have occurred in the cemetery, including the remains of many historically important pioneers and some of Tucson's oldest residents. In 1974, Evergreen became Southern Arizona's first combined mortuary, crematory and cemetery. The cemetery continues to grow and is committed to preserving the natural beauty and peacefulness of the park. As part of the NorthStar Memorial Group, the professionals at Evergreen provide the very highest level of care to families before, during and after their time of need. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.evergreenmortuary-cemetery.com">www.evergreenmortuary-cemetery.com</a> or call (520) 274-2879.