

INFORMATION ON GRAVES

1. James Crawford and wife Margaret, founders of Steamboat Springs. Margaret is the main character in three books, *Maggie by My Side*, *The Cabin at Medicine Springs* and *The Shining Mountains*. The 1st Crawford Cabin is depicted on the headstone.
2. John Burroughs, famous Steamboat Author. He wrote *Where the Old West Stayed Young*, one of the best histories of Northwest Colorado, and *I Never Look Back*, the story of Buddy Werner. He was also a Navy Veteran, captured at Wake Island and held as a prisoner of war for 4 years. Nearby is the Michetti/Compestine plot, which is the only plot in the cemetery that has an iron fence and European influence.
3. Charles Laub, Civil War veteran. His headstone is the Civil War military style.
4. James Noyce, Steamboat's first aviator. Raised on a ranch in the Southside neighborhood, he joined the Army in 1817 and was sent to flight school in Texas. He died during pilot training in an airplane crash.
5. William Harvey had a homestead in Pleasant Valley. He was a Civil War veteran, but is famous for killing 56 bears, which is on his headstone.
6. Charles Graham, Civil War veteran. He ran a business in Steamboat, and was the first person to be elected to the Colorado Senate from Steamboat. He ran as a member of the Populist Party.
7. The only headstone in the Cemetery written in a foreign language. The language has been identified as Lithuanian. He was a coal miner from Oak Creek, who died during the coal strikes of 1910-1913. The town of Oak Creek refused to let striking miners be buried in the Oak Creek Cemetery, so the United Mine Workers bought six lots in the Steamboat Springs Cemetery. This was the only plot they used.
8. I. Belle Cantrell was the first burial in the Steamboat Cemetery, Sept. 4, 1882. The original headstone was replaced by the family in the 1960's.
9. The Wither Memorial Monument depicts the famous Wither Cabin at Hahns Peak and recognizes one of the oldest Routt County Families, though none of the Wither family is buried here.
10. Many families on the West hillside put their lots into stonewalls because they were afraid that someday the hill might slide and compromise the graves. Graves in this area include those of an old Elk River ranching family and also reflect some early cowboy art.

11. Potters Field, where County burials were made. There are over 60 graves in this area, and most are not marked or identified. Most burials took place during the flu epidemic of 1918 and the early depression of the 1930's. One of the three Civil War Confederate graves is located here. The grave is marked with a Confederate headstone placed by the Sons of the Confederacy Colorado Chapter in 2008. Underground radar has been used to identify where people were buried.
12. More rock walls on the West end of the Cemetery.
13. Guy Utter, son of a Twentymile Park rancher killed during the battle of Verdun Oct. 25, 1918. Out of the 25 Routt County soldiers killed in World War I, he is the only one whose body was brought back. His funeral was held on Memorial Day, 1922, and ever since the American Legion and VFW have held a Memorial Day Ceremony.
14. Graves of Tuffy and Gordon Wren. These two graves represent the heritage of Steamboat Springs and Routt County. Tuffy was Gordon's father and in his youth he was a world class bronc rider, as depicted on his headstone. Gordon became a world class skier and placed the highest of any American in skiing at the 1948 Winter Olympics.
15. Located in this area are the three Steamboat soldiers killed during the Korean Conflict. They are: Ben Ehle Jr., KIA Sept. 1950; Leonard Officer, KIA Oct. 1951; and Frank Finch, KIA Oct. 1952.
16. Gerald Boggs, a Viet Nam veteran and the son of a long time hardware store owner, was killed in Oct. 1993 by a woman who was supposedly his wife, in what is known as Steamboat's version of a "Black Widow killing."
17. The only two Routt County soldiers killed in Viet Nam are buried here. John Vialpondo from Steamboat was killed in Dec. 1968 and David Fogg from Yampa was killed in July 1969.
18. James Chew, the only Steamboat Springs Police Officer to be killed in the line of duty. He was shot while trying to apprehend a jail inmate that had escaped in July 1972. He was also a Viet Nam veteran.
19. Graves in the 3rd Addition of the cemetery which represent a different style of headstones featuring what is called headstone art, which depicts the lifestyle of those buried. Some of the notable graves in this area are: Si Lockhart, Tom Duckles, Walt Weber, Leland Harms, Jerry More, Ashley Stamp, and Dave Pinkerman.
20. "Snowball" Ralph Herberlee, one of Steamboat's well known characters. Snowball came to Steamboat in the 1950's. He had no family and never married. He was Steamboat's handyman. He did odd jobs, met every Trailways bus at the Harbor Hotel to help

passengers with their luggage, and hand dug every grave in the Steamboat Cemetery from the late 1950's till the early 1970's. He died in Dec. 1990.

21. Carl Ramunno, famed Steamboat Springs High School wrestling coach. He coached Steamboat's team to win their first State Wrestling Championship in 1958, and won 5 more State Championships during his coaching years. He was also a Korean Conflict veteran.
22. The Cemetery Columbarium provides niches for cremains of deceased that family members do not want to bury or scatter. One niche holds 2 sets of remains.
23. The Veterans Memorial and flag pole were placed in the cemetery in 1978 by American Legion Post #44 and VFW Post #4264 as an area to conduct Memorial Day services, and to recognize the veterans buried in the cemetery. Memorial services for veterans are also held there.
24. Dr. F.E. Willett, one of Steamboat's early doctors, established the first hospital in Steamboat and ran a Steamboat hospital until 1952. He was well known for serving the rural community and making house calls. He delivered a majority of the babies born in Steamboat and the surrounding area from 1912 to the early 1960's. He also served as Steamboat's mayor in the 1920's.
25. Wallace "Bud" Werner was the home town boy who became one of the United States' best skiers. He was the first U.S. skier to win major European ski races, and he competed in two Winter Olympics. He was killed by an avalanche in Europe while making a ski film. Storm Mountain, which was the site of a developing ski area, was renamed Mt. Werner in his honor in 1965.
26. Memorial Lake is an area where family members can place memorial benches or plaques for family members. The stone bench has historical significance as for years it was in the park by the Soda Springs. The City wanted it moved, so it was brought to the cemetery to honor the May family.
27. Children's memorials – sadly there are a lot of children buried in the cemetery. One of the most common monuments for children was a lamb figure. An angle carved on the headstone was also common, and in the last few years the practice of placing toys on the headstone has become popular.

Steamboat Springs Cemetery

History of Cemetery

The Steamboat Springs Cemetery has been around since 1882. The first recorded burial was Belle Cantrell, she died September 4, 1882. The early land records show that Isaac Calder received the land from the government in 1891. In 1929 Kemmer sold 20 acres to the Cemetery Association. In 1939 the Steamboat Springs Cemetery sold the land back to the Town of Steamboat and was transferred back to the Steamboat Springs Cemetery District in 1961.

This cemetery is a wealth of knowledge and history for this area. It includes the graves of James Crawford and his wife who founded Steamboat. There are many early pioneers well known and some not so well known. The head stone of William E. Harvey, 1839-1914, tells of his success as a local hunter, he killed 56 bears here in Routt County. Most importantly there are many veterans buried in the Steamboat Springs Cemetery. We have veterans from the Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Plus all of the veterans' graves are marked so you won't miss them.

