Akron Mennonite Church Cemetery Association’s

 Nature Preserve – Memory Garden

In recent decades persons have increasingly preferred alternatives to the traditional burial methods for reasons of expense and more awareness of the environmental impact. One alternative includes cremating the body and depositing the cremains in an urn in the ground. Some choose scattering the cremains. Others consider a more environmentally friendly natural burial in a cloth shroud, without embalming, vault or casket.

Akron Mennonite Church has developed a Nature Preserve -- Memory Garden offering burial options on the adjacent 4 acres of land with walking paths, native trees and meadow grasses benefiting pollinators, a place for meditation and creation care.

Persons attending Akron Mennonite church and persons living within a 3- mile radius of the church as well as persons attending Mennonite churches beyond the three-mile radius are invited to utilize the burial facilities of the cemetery and the nature preserve. Burial options include:

1. Full body lots including embalming, casket and vault with a single, ground-level granite marker.
2. Full body lots without embalming or casket, shrouded and referred to as a natural or environmentally friendly “green burial.” One or two bodies can be accommodated in one grave with a combination granite marker with two names and dates.
3. Cremation burial in a half-lot can accommodate one or two urns with either a single or combination granite marker.
4. Cremains scattered either in a designated area in the nature preserve or offsite with the name and date on granite memory wall in the nature preserve.

Consideration of the above burial options should take into account costs, personal values and family preferences. Thought should be given to the range of professional funeral services needed for the burial option under consideration. The Akron Mennonite Cemetery Association welcomes the opportunity to provide further information about options, fees and cemetery regulations and discuss your particular wishes in choosing the burial option best suited to your end-of-life planning.

The Nature Preserve-Memory Garden provides a setting for family and relatives to reflect upon the memory of their loved one as well as an opportunity to participate\volunteer with the association in creation care as a means of celebrating continued life.

For more information or to purchase a burial lot, please contact Akron Mennonite Church Cemetery Association: 717 859-1488, amc@akronmench.org or weberjj@ptd.net