

**WHO: HAMILTON HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL THEATER STUDENTS**

**WHAT: LANTERN WALK**

**WHEN: APRIL 22, 2023 7:00 – 9:00 PM**

**WHERE: CICERO CEMETERY**

- 1. RYAN WHITE**
- 2. CASS SCHERER**
- 3. DR. OSCAR HAVENS**
- 4. DUDLEY PURKEY**
- 5. HANSEL ROBERTS**
- 6. WILLIAM MARTZ**
- 7. LAWRENCE BECK**
- 8. NEWTON ROADS**
- 9. FRANK WOLFF**
- 10. VICTORIA HOPE**
- 11. MARY JO MILLS**
- 12. GRACE SIGO**

**(SEE BELOW FOR BIOS)**



# RYAN WHITE

Birth/Death: December 6, 1971 – April 8, 1990

Residence: Cicero

Place of Burial: Cicero Cemetery

## Contributions: AIDS Awareness



I am Ryan White. I was diagnosed with AIDS in 1984 after receiving the virus from a contaminated blood transfusion to treat my hemophilia. I faced intense discrimination from my Kokomo community in a time of fear and misunderstanding about the disease, and I was kept from attending school. My family and I moved to Cicero in 1987, and I was welcomed at my new school, Hamilton Heights. Before I arrived, the school corporation developed an acclaimed AIDS education campaign. I raised national awareness while battling the disease, and spoke before the Presidential Commission on the HIV epidemic. I was named Sagamore of the Wabash for my advocacy, and the Ryan White CARE Act, providing funds for HIV/AIDS treatment, was passed by Congress shortly after my death.

*Source: Ryan White Historical Marker*

*Interpreted by—Charles Wedmore*



## CASS SCHERER

Birth/Death: November 23, 1859-August 13, 1933

Residence: Cicero

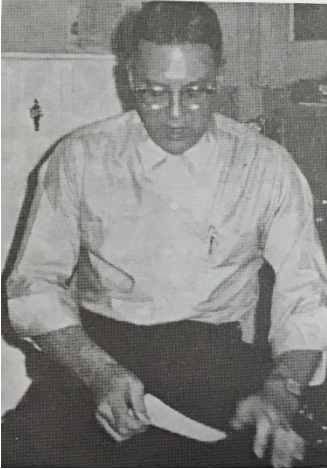
Place of Burial: Cicero Cemetery

Contributions: Realtor;  
Builder of Magnetic Springs Park



I am Cass Scherer. My family was of German descent and settled in North Carolina before moving to Central Indiana. I was born in Millersburg and eventually moved to the Cicero area. In 1880, I married Ida Schaul, who was the first cousin of future president William McKinley. I became a successful real estate broker, and I was responsible for building Cicero's Magnetic Springs Park, which included such attractions as a flowing well, horse track, band shell, and coliseum. Although it now lies beneath Morse Reservoir, the park was so popular that the road leading to it was named Main Street, a title which remains to this day. Cass Street and Scherer Avenue were named in my honor. My line of succession includes Vicki, Kathy, and Julie Scherer, and great-great-grandson Alexander Davis.

*Source: Ken and Kathy Kirkendorfer; Julie Davis, great-grandchildren  
Interpreted by—Alexander Davis*



## DR. OSCAR HAVENS

Birth/Death: June 1, 1914-March 24, 1975

Residence: Cicero

Place of Burial: Cicero Cemetery

Contributions: Doctor; Member of 1932  
Cicero Red Devils Basketball Team



I am Oscar Havens, MD. I was born in Cicero, son of Dr. Edward and Hanna (Clauson) Havens. Like my father and brother, I decided to pursue a medical career, and together the three of us served the community for 73 years. I graduated in 1942 from the Indiana University School of Medicine. I became a diabetic shortly after I began my practice, and served as a specialist in that field. I was a member of the Riverview Hospital staff and the American Diabetic Association. During my career, I delivered a great many of the “Baby Boomers” in the northern Jackson Township area. I am also noted for my athletic abilities as a young adult. I was a guard on the 1932 Cicero Red Devils basketball team that made it to the State Finals that year. My teammates and I were a part of the first class to be inducted into the Hamilton Heights Athletic Hall of Fame.

*Source: Costomiris and Dunn. Cicero, Indiana 1834-1934, 1984.*

*Interpreted by—Mason Johnson*



## DUDLEY PURKEY

Birth/Death: September 21, 1910-June 7, 1984

Residence: Cicero

Place of Burial: Cicero Cemetery

Contributions: Barber



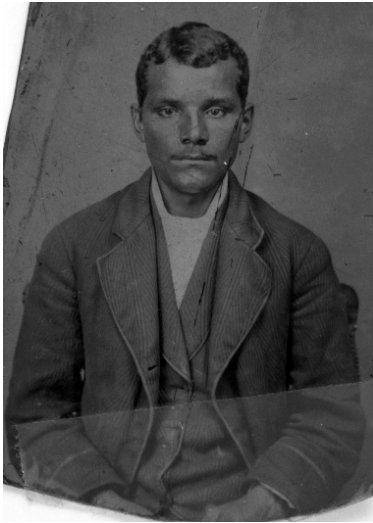
I am Dudley Purkey. When I was 11-years-old, I stopped by the barber shop in Cicero to sell *Grit* newspapers, and the owner asked me if I would rather have a job working for him shining shoes. I immediately accepted, and my work inside a barber shop began. One day when the barber was out to lunch, a man brought his two boys in and wanted their hair cut. I jokingly said that I was the barber, and I earned 35 cents for each boy, even though my work left much to be desired. There were no barber schools back then—we just went in and practiced, and we made our own hair tonics and shaving lotions. Before Cicero, I worked for shops in Carmel, Westfield, and Noblesville. I also made house calls. Throughout the years I worked as a barber—61 to be exact-- I gathered more stories than I can count. I finally retired in 1983 due to poor health.

*Source: Dudley Purkey, as told to Costomiris and Dunn. Cicero, Indiana 1834-1934, 1984.*

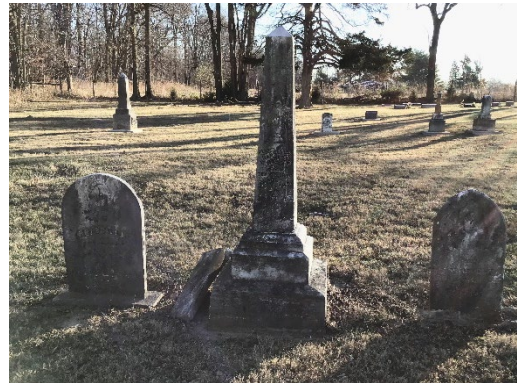
*Interpreted by—*



## HANSEL ROBERTS



Birth/Death: d. 1870  
Residence: Roberts Settlement,  
Atlanta  
Place of Burial: Roberts  
Chapel Cemetery  
Contributions: Founder of  
Roberts Settlement



*Peter Roberts, Hansel's first cousin once removed. No known likeness of Hansel Roberts exists.*

I am Hansel Roberts, an African-American pioneer. We were people of mixed African, Native American, and European descent, raised in eastern North Carolina, an area where our families had lived as modest, well-respected, free landowners for at least a generation before the American Revolution. We migrated to Indiana's frontier in large measure because our freedom seemed in jeopardy. In July 1835, I journeyed to the federal government's land office in Indianapolis to purchase homesteads in northern Hamilton County. The claims had been intentionally chosen to be within several miles of Quakers, a group known to be accepting and supportive of free blacks. In October 1835, we brought our families to our wilderness claims and settled permanently, establishing a farm community later known as Roberts Settlement. By 1840 the neighborhood included about 10 families and 900 acres of land. In the mid-1920s, growing self-awareness of Roberts Settlement's special heritage led former residents to organize annual homecoming reunions, establishing a Fourth of July tradition that has continued to the present day. My final resting place is the Roberts Chapel Cemetery.

*Source: Stephen A. Vincent, Ph. D. Copyright 2014. [robertssettlement.org/history](http://robertssettlement.org/history);  
Bryan Glover*

*Interpreted by—Sage Dugger*

## **WILLIAM MARTZ**

Birth/Death: 1837-1921

Residence: Arcadia

Place of Burial: Crown Hill Cemetery

Contributions: Builder/Home  
Manufacturing



I am William Martz. I was born in Hamilton County in 1837, one of the twelve children of Isaac and Levina Martz. My father Isaac had a twin brother, Moses, and these brothers married twin sisters on the same day. My father and Uncle Moses moved their families from Ohio to Hamilton County, and helped to plot out the town of Arcadia. As I grew to adulthood, I took up the manufacturing and construction trade with other members of my large family. I am responsible for building several brick homes in Arcadia, and many of these still stand to this day. These homes are called “William Martz Homes,” and the first legal subdivision in northern Hamilton County, the William Martz Addition, was named in my honor. My final resting place is Crown Hill Cemetery on 256<sup>th</sup> Street and Scherer Avenue, where I share an extensive memorial and burial ground with the many members of the Martz Family.

*Source: Find-a-Grave.com; Arcadia Study Club. A History of Arcadia Indiana. 1972.*

*Interpreted by—Tanner Barry*



## LAWRENCE BECK

Birth/Death: 1877-1938

Residence: Atlanta

Place of Burial: Emanuel

Lutheran Cemetery- Mt. Pleasant Road

Contributions: Founder of Beck's Hybrids



I am Lawrence Beck. In 1901, I purchased an 80-acre farm in Hamilton County, which served as the headquarters of Beck's Hybrids. In 1937, my son Francis and I each planted a three-acre allotment of hybrid parent seed corn offered by the Purdue Botany Department. We planted the crop with a two row, horse-drawn planter and harvested it by hand. This became the first crop of Beck's Superior Hybrids. In the following decades, my children and their children's children became involved in the business, making Beck's the largest family-owned operation and third largest of its kind in the United States. Although a lot has changed since 1937, a few things have remained the same. At Beck's, my family and family of employees remain dedicated to giving back to the community, and to developing and growing the best performing seed products in the marketing area. My final resting place is the Emanuel Lutheran Cemetery on Mt. Pleasant Road.

Source: [www.beckshybrids.com](http://www.beckshybrids.com)

Interpreted by—Tanner Orton





## NEWTON ROADS

Birth/Death: May 3, 1860-January 22, 1926

Residence: Atlanta

Place of Burial: Arcadia Cemetery

Contributions: Founder of Roads

Hotel; Received Grant for Atlanta Carnegie Library



I am Newton Roads. I was a prominent citizen and businessman in the town of Atlanta. I founded and built the Roads Hotel, a historic, two-story Queen Anne style frame building in Atlanta in 1893, which remained in use as a hotel until the 1920s. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987, and has recently gained fame for possible paranormal activity. Upon my suggestion and with my hard work, Atlanta received a Carnegie Grant for construction of the area's main library, which was erected on the corner of Main and Walnut Streets in 1916. It remained the largest of the three town's libraries until Hamilton North Public Library was built in Cicero in 1997. My final resting place is the Arcadia Cemetery.

*Source: Atlanta Public Library records*

*Interpreted by—Brooks Myers*



## FRANK WOLFF

Birth/Death: 1855-1949

Residence: Arcadia

Place of Burial: Arcadia

Cemetery

Contributions:

Merchant/Founder of Dry  
Goods Store, Builder of  
Wolff House



I am Frank Wolff. I was born in 1855 in Buena Vista, which is now Atlanta. My brother William and I opened a dry goods store in Arcadia, and sold everything from tools to Buster Brown Shoes. I operated the store until I retired in 1930.

William and I built the Queen Anne style Wolff House on Main Street, meant to be a wedding present to William's daughter. When she chose not to live there, my wife Turia and I moved in, later passing the house on to our daughter Maude and her husband Charlie Carter, a local music teacher. We installed the area's first "indoor plumbing" in the 1895 house, which consisted of two horse tanks located in the attic and connected to pipes for a gravity-flow water supply. When I passed away at age 94, I was the oldest living resident in Arcadia. My final resting place is the Arcadia Cemetery.

*Source: Find-a-Grave.com; Julie Davis*

*Interpreted by—Rory Craig*



## VICTORIA HOPE

Birth/Death: April 12, 1915-January 11, 2008

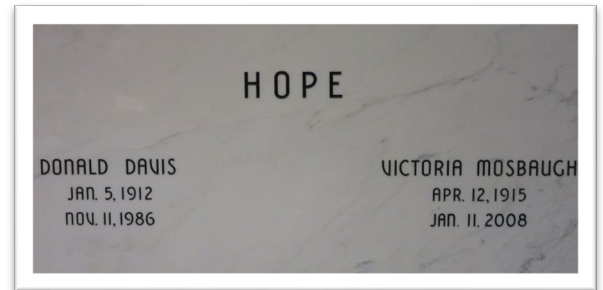
Residence: Arcadia

Place of Burial: Oak Lawn

Memorial Gardens, Fishers IN

Contributions: Organist/  
business woman; first woman

Township Trustee; Saved  
historic Arcadia Depot



I am Victoria Mosbaugh Hope. I spent many years as a church organist and teacher. At the age of 13, I performed at "The Little Church Around the Corner" in New York City. I played with the Purdue Glee Club, and for nearly every local program that needed accompaniment. This included high school commencements, where my organ was trucked into the gymnasium for the ceremony. I was State District Deputy and Grand Organist of the Eastern Star, and received Honorary Life Membership from Bethel #65 Jobs Daughters, where I served as Guardian, Director of Music and Grand Director of Music for Grand Council of Indiana. My husband Don and I owned the Cicero Canning Company, and I assisted in the operation of the Hope Realty Office. I served as the first woman Trustee of Jackson Township. I was named to *Who's Who of American Women* and *Sagamore of the Wabash*. I was instrumental in moving and saving the Arcadia Depot. My final resting place is the Oak Lawn Memorial Gardens in Fishers.

*Source: Victoria Hope Obituary; Toni Voss Dickover, niece*  
*Interpreted by-----Maddy Pouch*



## MARY JO MILLS

Birth/Death: March 3, 1919-  
June 14, 1996

Residence: Arcadia

Place of Burial: Arcadia  
Cemetery

Contributions:

Businesswoman; Recycle  
project; Hamilton County Senior Citizens trips and  
projects



I am Mary Jo Mills. I was mother to four daughters and one son, and if that didn't keep me busy enough, I found the time to be active in an amazing number of projects throughout Arcadia and Hamilton County. I was owner of the What-Not Shop in Arcadia, specializing in antiques, primitives, glass and furniture. I received the title of Master Gardener by Purdue University in 1988 and Advanced Master Gardener in 1993. In 1994, I even appeared in a TV ad for Wal-Mart! I was highly involved in establishing the not-for-profit recycling project in the Noblesville area in the 1970's, working with the city and the Senior Citizens organization to ensure its success. I was instrumental in organizing and planning the day and overnight trips for the Hamilton County Senior Citizens. I was honored as a Hamilton County Volunteer of the Year 1986. My final resting place is the Arcadia Cemetery.

*Source: Steve Mills, Brenda Ryan, children*

*Interpreted by—Meredith Dodson*





## GRACE SIGO

Birth/Death: October 19,  
1906-February 14, 2007  
(Age 100)

Residence: Arcadia

Place of Burial: Arcadia  
Cemetery

Contributions: Ceramic  
artist and painter;  
photographer and historian



I am Grace Sigo. I was born just east of Arcadia, and was a resident of the town for the entire 100 years of my life. I married Roy Sigo, who was a landscaper and an expert in repairing antique clocks. After retiring from J.C. Penney in Noblesville after 25 years, I took up ceramics and china painting, and created hundreds of artifacts. My home became my studio and eventually a classroom, as I also taught painting and sculpture. I created hand-painted porcelain booties as gifts to any child born into the Church of the Brethren. I worked with canvas painting and photography, and used an innovative double slide camera, a forerunner of the View Master, to capture events around the area. Many of these pictures have become a part of our history, as my camera documented the building of the dam and Morse Reservoir, schools, local bridges and roads. At age 92, I was recognized as Hamilton County's Older Citizen of the Year. Once an art student called me "one of our county's greatest treasures." I don't know about that, but I am thankful to have lived such a long life of serving others and making beautiful the world around me. My final resting place is the Arcadia Cemetery.

*Source: David Hildebrand, grandson; Noblesville Ledger and Topics*  
*Interpreted by—Victoria Chambers*