

# I've Found My Ancestor in a Cemetery. Now What?

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Taphophile: a person who is interested in cemeteries, funerals, and gravestones, from Wiktionary.

How do you find where your Ancestors are buried?

- Death certificates
- Funeral brochures
- Historical Newspaper obituaries
- Online obituaries – more recent
- Find A Grave and BillionGraves

What do you need to know about the cemeteries?

- Public vs. Private
- Large or small
- Who owns/maintains?
- Church or religiously affiliated
- Municipality
- Funeral Home
- National and Veteran's

How to keep track of everyone, and let others know

- Handwritten/typed list
  - copy, share online (Google Docs)
- Paper map
- Online Map
- FindAGrave, or BillionGraves
- Add information to person's profile on:
  - Family Search
  - Ancestry
  - Wikitree

Virtual Cemetery feature on FindAGrave  
Create and add

Create personal list on Google Maps  
Share with others

## Sources and links

### Websites

Ancestry.com: <https://www.ancestry.com/>

BillionGraves: <https://billiongraves.com/>

Cemetery.com; <https://www.cemetery.com/learning-center/guide-to-cemeteries/types-of-cemeteries>

Chronicling America: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

FamilySearch: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

Family Tree Webinars: <https://familytreewebinars.com/>

FindAGrave: <https://www.findagrave.com/>

GenealogyBank.com: <https://www.genealogybank.com/>

Legacy.com: <https://www.legacy.com/>

National & Veteran's cemeteries: <https://www.cem.va.gov/>

Symbols on Veteran's headstones: <https://www.cem.va.gov/hmm/embles.asp>

Newspapers.com: <https://www.newspapers.com/>

US GenWeb: <https://www.usgenweb.org/>

Wikitree: <https://www.wikitree.com/>

### Book

Melville, Greg, *Over My Dead Body*, New York, Abrams Press, 2022.