

Written In Stone

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Jordan Memorial Gardens

Every generation, leaders are born. Every day, these leaders pass away, leaving an example of the life they led. Webster defines a leader as one that leads; directs; or a leading head. An excellent leadership trait or quality is the ability to plan ahead; to envision the needs of those around you, and how to best meet those needs.

In the mid 1970's, the foresight and planning of two individuals in their twilight years for their own destiny, had a profound effect on the Conecuh community. They had lived, worked, worshipped and raised their family in their adopted Conecuh; and they wanted to be buried on their land with their family close by.

There was limited cemetery space available already, especially for those of African American ancestry; and this family was well aware of this fact. John B. Jordan, and wife, Gelene Gregory Jordan, had long been meeting the needs of others, through their work as a County Extension Agent and teacher, as parents to two children; as active members of their church; and leaders in many community service organizations. The Jordan Family owned 100 + acres of land on the Brooklyn Road and in 1975, donated this land to the City of Evergreen for use as a city cemetery, reserving space for their own family.

The first burial was Mr. Leroy Sanford in 1975, shortly after the first plots were laid out in the newest town burial grounds. In the 1986 Headstone Survey, there were 24 graves in Township 5 North, Range 11 East. In the 20 years hence, many others have been added. Surnames known to this relatively young cemetery are Byrd, Grooms, Moye, Rabb, Randerson, Spears and others.

Many Conecuh families would probably like to express their thanks to the Jordan's for their generous gift; and we wish to do that here with the history of Jordan Memorial Gardens. Thanks, Mr. & Mrs. Jordan and Family for the memories and the beautiful cemetery.