

Cemetery, from page 16

lived just 30 months after his birth on Nov. 2, 1923. Louis Arch Jr. came into the world in 1916 and left it but four years later. A tiny one, identified only as "Rosie" lived one week in July 1914.

Merkun. Petkovsek. Ule. Champa.

Willard served up its share of military service men and women, according to that tale told in granite and marble. William and Eleanor Bayuk both served their country in time of need, and now rest side by side under metal markers of their sacrifices. William Klovas, an Army private in World War 1, lived to the age of 85 and now lies in the shade of the Holy Family arbor vitae. Staff Sergeant John Digoski, U.S. Army, paid his military dues, passed away in 1975, and occupies a space in the family plot. His brother, Joseph, an Army private in Korea, passed away eight years ago at the age of 70.

Steve Arch lost his life in defense of Willard and his country, in France, during World War II. He is buried overseas, but his brother, William, who also fought in World War II, lies here. William Arch survived the hostilities of war, but fell soon after, on May 6, 1946, in a car accident. He earned the Silver Star and Purple Heart, only to die on a roadway.

Klanchar. Horvat. Seliskar. Rakovec.

Its history quite common and calm, as small communities go, Willard was rocked in 1936 when a mother and her young son were shot and killed in their home. As old news accounts of the case relate, Frank Laykovich turned a gun on his 46-year-old wife, Agatha, and their 3-year-old boy, Eugene, and sent them to their early graves on the eastern hillside of the Catholic burial grounds. They rest now, 71 years later, side-by-side for eternity.

Janezich. Tolaney. Lucas. Fortuna.

Gravestones are often not complete in their stories, they tell perhaps of a span of time one's life covered, maybe stating that a man was a father, his wife a mother. A wedding anniversary date sometimes, others not. Some of the dear departed identified only by a first name and a pair of years may be identified further by connecting them to a nearby family headstone, but not always.

Sometimes, the dead don't even have a name. In the Lesar family plot, there are father Frank, mother Frances, daughter Frances, daughter Mary. And "Grandma, 7-26-1850/6-26-1930."

Bukovec. Gregorich. Landini. Podobnik.

The wind chime that spreads its sound across the whole cemetery decorates the graves of Rudy Sr. and Lavonne Horvat. The rest of the tributes to Willard's past souls are silent, plastic flowers mostly, maybe an angel suspended by wire over a



A week-old girl identified and forever to be known only as "Rosie" lies at rest in the early part of Holy Family Cemetery since 1919.

grave. Some plant live flowers in memory of their loved ones, for others there are American flags, or crosses. Gravestones themselves are adorned with presumably favorite objects of the departed, a deer, a farm scene, hearts to symbolize

the love the deceased had for one another while they lived. On the gravestone of Stanley Volovsek, the most recently deceased person in the Holy Family Cemetery, there is a hammer. He was a carpenter.

Zallar. Rutar. Pakiz. Volk.

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