



PH: 801.254.3742 EMAIL: [info@sjc.utah.gov](mailto:info@sjc.utah.gov) FAX: 801.254.3393

June 2, 2015

Stephen E. Dawson

[REDACTED]  
South Jordan, Utah 84095

Re: GRAMA Record Request dated 5/19/2015

Dear Mr. Dawson,

I am responding to a GRAMA Record Request submitted to South Jordan City on 5/19/2015 asking for a list of 21 different records. I have enclosed a detailed listing of the records we have on file and are sending you copies of as well as the items we do not have record(s) for.

This concludes our response to your GRAMA Record Request dated 5/19/2015.

Sincerely,

*Anna M. West*

Anna M. West, CMC  
City Recorder

**CITY OF SOUTH JORDAN**  
**GRAMA Record Request**  
**Fax: 801-254-3393**



The following form should be completely filled out and returned to the City Recorder's office. The City is allowed 10 business days in which to respond to your request. Presently, South Jordan City Charges .25¢ per page. The City may assess other fees for records compiled in a form other than that maintained. Research or Services Fee may be charged as provided by Utah Code 63G-2-203.

Requestor's Name: STEPHEN E. DAWSON  
Address: [REDACTED] City: SOUTH JORDAN  
State: UTAH Zip: 84095 Daytime Phone: [REDACTED] Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

In accordance with the Governmental Records Access Management Act, I am seeking the following record(s) **specifically described as:**

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LIST. THANK YOU.  
FOR ANY ITEMS THAT DO NOT EXIST, PLEASE DOCUMENT  
THAT THE ITEM DOES NOT EXIST.

which I believe are collected, filed and/or used by the City of South Jordan, 1600 W. Towne Center Drive, South Jordan, Utah 84095 (801) 254-3742.

I would like to view/inspect the record(s).

I would like to receive a copy of the record(s) described above. I understand that the City charges a fee for copies of records and the copies will be provided subject to fees being paid. I authorize cost of up to \$ 25.00. If costs are greater than the amount I have specified, I further understand that the office will contact me and will not respond to a request for copies if I have not authorized adequate costs.

Stephen E. Dawson  
Signature

5/19/15  
Date

**CITY'S RESPONSE TO RECORD REQUEST - FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

APPROVED - Requestor notified on June 2, 20 15

DENIED - Written denial sent on \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

Requestor notified that this office does not maintain record; and, if known, was also notified of name and address of agency that does maintain record on \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

Extension of time for extraordinary circumstances. Required notice sent \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

COPY FEES: \$ 0. If waived, approved by: [Signature]

GRAMA Request  
City of South Jordan  
May 19, 2015

In accordance with the Government Records Management Act, I am seeking the following record(s) specifically described as:

1. Any communication, in any format, to the general public advising them of the hours or dates available or burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park ("cemetery").
2. Any communication, in any format, to Jenkins-Soffe Mortuary, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park ("cemetery").
3. Any communication, in any format, to Jenkins-Soffe Mortuary, advising them of the hours or dates available or burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for the year 2015. ("cemetery").
4. Any communication, in any format, to Jenkins-Soffe Mortuary, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for the year 2016. ("cemetery").
5. Any communication, in any format, to Jenkins-Soffe Mortuary, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for the years 1980 through 2014. ("cemetery").
6. Any communication, in any format, to any mortuary in Salt Lake County, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park ("cemetery").
7. Any communication, in any format, to any mortuary in Salt Lake County, advising them of the hours or dates available or burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for the year 2015("cemetery").
8. Any communication, in any format, to any mortuary in Salt Lake County, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for 2016 ("cemetery").
9. Any communication, in any format, to any mortuary in Salt Lake County, advising them of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park for the years 1980 through 2014("cemetery").
10. Any policies, ordinances, rules, or regulations used by the City of South Jordan to advise, train, or instruct City employees who work with the cemetery of the hours or dates available for burial for the South Jordan Memorial Park from 1980 through 2015.("cemetery").
11. Any and all documents held by the City related to the purchase on four burial plots purchased by Stephen E. Dawson in December of 2009.
12. Any numbers, calculations, projections or estimates performed by the City or any party in its behalf, related to the number of people who visit the South Jordan Memorial Park on the Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday of Memorial Day weekend in 2016.
13. Any numbers, calculations, projections or estimates performed by the City or any party in its behalf, related to the number of people who visit the South

Jordan Memorial Park on the Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday of Memorial Day weekend in 1980-2015.

14. Any information or communication within the possession of the City of South Jordan indicating that the South Jordan Memorial Park is only reserved for persons visiting existing graves or stating a preference or deference be given to visitors at the expense of those wishing to hold a burial.
15. Any information or communication within the possession of the City of South Jordan indicating that the preferred purpose for the South Jordan Memorial Park for persons visiting existing military graves or the grave of a veteran.
16. Any complaints ever lodged with the City of South Jordan from 1980 to 2015 describing concerns related to the opening of graves or burial during Memorial Day weekend.
17. Any complaints ever lodged with the City of South Jordan from 1980 to 2015 describing concerns related to the opening of graves or burial during visitations by other groups or families.
18. Any documentation in the possession of the City of South Jordan stating a policy to not permit burials, grave openings or closings, or graveside services during Memorial Day weekend or in, on, or around December 24<sup>th</sup> or December 25<sup>th</sup>.
19. Any documentation in the possession of the City of South Jordan stating a policy that the City has the sole right to determine the timing or date of burials, grave openings or closings, or graveside services.
20. A list of all persons buried in the South Jordan Memorial Park, who were buried within 72 hours before or after Memorial Day or Christmas Day (December 25<sup>th</sup>) in the years 1980-2015.
21. Any and all communications among City staff regarding a letter from Chip Dawson asking for permission to conduct a burial for his mother on May 19, 2015.

Dawson 5/19/2015 GRAMA Request:

1. Unable to locate any such record.
2. Unable to locate any such record.
3. Unable to locate any such record.
4. Unable to locate any such record.
5. Unable to locate any such record.
6. Unable to locate any such record.
7. Unable to locate any such record.
8. Unable to locate any such record.
9. Unable to locate any such record.
10. Unable to locate any such record.
11. Enclosed purchase and receipt documents.
12. Unable to locate any such record.
13. Unable to locate any such record.
14. Unable to locate any such record.
15. Unable to locate any such record.
16. Unable to locate any such record.
17. Unable to locate any such record.
18. Unable to locate any such record.
19. Enclosed City Code 12.20.030 and Certificate referring to rules and regulations.
20. Enclosed records created in response to GRAMA request.
21. Enclosed e-mails of Gary Whatcott, Paul Cunningham, and Colby Hill.



**SOUTH JORDAN CITY**  
**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP**  
**AND BURIAL RIGHTS**

Stephen E. Dawson  
Name

Julia R. Dawson  
Joint Tenant

[REDACTED]  
Address

[REDACTED]  
Address (If not the same)

SOUTH JORDAN UT 84095  
City, State, Zip Code

[REDACTED]  
City, State, Zip Code

[REDACTED]  
Telephone Number

[REDACTED]  
Telephone Number

[REDACTED]  
Date of Payment (If Transferring)

[REDACTED]  
Certificate Number (If Transferring)

**Office Use Only:**

Certificate Number: 7447

Original Purchase: Yes  No

Transfer: (\$5.00 Fee) Yes  No

Location: Block: 13

Lot: 2

Grave(s): 1, 2, 3, 4

Public Services: Shanda McCreath

Date: 12.10.2009

## 12.20.030: REGULATIONS:

The city is authorized to formulate and promulgate regulations not inconsistent with this chapter, in accordance with section 2.12.030 of this code, in the following topical areas:

- A. Any requirement, procedure, rule, policy or provision established by this chapter.
  
- B. The use of the South Jordan Memorial park, including, among other things, the hours of open access to the cemetery, the maintenance, size and height of monuments, and other grave markers, the placement and upkeep of landscaping, the placement and removal of floral displays, the flow of traffic in the cemetery, and all other acts or conduct within and affecting the cemetery.
  
- C. Otherwise, as hereinafter provided by this chapter. (Ord. 2001-27, as amended)

## Memorial Day

## Burials within 72 Hours

May 26th 1980

May 25th 1981

May 31st 1982

May 30th, 1983

May 28th, 1984

May 27th, 1985

May 26th, 1986

May 25th, 1987

May 30th, 1988

May 29th, 1989

May 28th, 1990

May 27th, 1991

May 25th, 1992

May 31st, 1993

May 30th, 1994

May 29th, 1995

May 27th, 1996

May 26th, 1997

May 25th, 1998

May 31st, 1999

May 29th, 2000

May 28th, 2001

May 27th, 2002

May 26th, 2003

May 31st, 2004

May 30th, 2005

May 29th, 2006

May 28th, 2007

May 26th, 2008

May 25th, 2009

May 31st, 2010

May 30th, 2011

May 28th, 2012

May 27th, 2013

May 26th, 2014

May 25th 2015

Morris, Arch E., May 27th, 1981 (After Memorial Day)

Workman, Afton Ann, May 29th, 1982

Purser, James Lawrence, May 31, 1989 (After Memorial Day)

Sanders, Gladys, May 31st, 1995 (After Memorial Day)

Thorpe, Paul C., May 28th, 1997 (After Memorial Day)

McMullin, Minnie D., May 28th, 1997 (After Memorial Day)

Cole, Gary Robert, May 29th, 2002 (After Memorial Day)

Johnson, Cory Joe, May 23, 2003

Powell, Gene Marvin, May 26th 2006

Koford, Brian Douglas, May 28th 2010

Newbold, May R., May 30th 2012 (After Memorial Day)

Drake, Laurel Janne, May 29th 2014 (After Memorial Day)

## Christmas Day

## Burials within 72 Hours

December 25th, 1980	1 Sheppick, Gwain, December 24th, 1980
December 25th, 1981	1 Phillips, Annie Drue, December 23rd, 1981
December 25th, 1982	
December 25th, 1983	
December 25th, 1984	
December 25th, 1985	1 Holt, Lawrence Keith, December 23rd, 1985
December 25th, 1986	2 Maxfield, Gladys Arlene J December 22nd, 1986 Hatt, Elsie R Winward, December 23rd, 1986
December 25th, 1987	
December 25th, 1988	
December 25th, 1989	
December 25th, 1990	
December 25th, 1991	
December 25th, 1992	
December 25th, 1993	
December 25th, 1994	
December 25th, 1995	
December 25th, 1996	2 Winward, Marjorie Morris, December 27th, 1996 Beckstead, Burt O'Lynn, December 27th, 1996
December 25th, 1997	1 Sharp/Shields, Anna, December 27th, 1997 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 1998	
December 25th, 1999	1 Wiechert, Carl, December 28th, 1999 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2000	1 Campbell, Gregory Lail, December 28th, 2000 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2001	1 DiBella, Sylvester Louis, December 28th, 2001 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2002	
December 25th, 2003	1 Wheadon, Dell, Decemebr 23rd, 2003
December 25th, 2004	1 Burgon, Vance Edward, December 28th, 2004 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2005	
December 25th, 2006	
December 25th, 2007	2 Malmrose, Casimir, December 27th, 2007 (After Christmas) Perry, Rachel Mortensen, December 27th, 2007 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2008	2 McDaniel, Sharon K, December 23rd, 2008 Millerberg, Gordon, December 27th, 2008 (After Christmas)
December 25th, 2009	1 Bang, Lois Charolett, December 22nd, 2009
December 25th, 2010	

## Decoration of Graves

Decorations are permitted to stay on the headstone permanently as long as they do not encroach upon the mandatory four (4") inch mow strip or become unsightly. All decorations that encroach into or beyond the mow strip will be removed and discarded. The following exceptions apply;

**Mother's Day**- Decorations will be left on graves for one full week, being removed the second Monday following Mother's Day

**Memorial Day**- Decorations will be left on graves for one full week, being removed on the Monday following the Official observance of Memorial Day.

**Funeral's**- Decorations placed on graves, at the time of burial, will remain for one full week

All headstones or grave markers shall be restricted as to size and general make-up. All grave markers are to be installed under the direction of the Cemetery Sexton or designee.

The use of Shepherds Hooks in South Jordan Memorial Park shall be restricted. Shepherds Hooks may be used the week of Memorial Day and the months December and January. Any other use of Shepherds Hooks will result in removal by Cemetery staff.

## **Planting of Shrubs, Flowers and Trees**

City ordinance prohibits the planting of any shrubs trees, or flowers in City Cemetery

## **Obstructions**

No fences, boarders, foot markers, or any other obstruction except a headstone or monument are allowed in the Cemetery.

# South Jordan Memorial Park



10610 South 1055 West  
South Jordan, Utah, 84095  
Office: (801) 253-5203

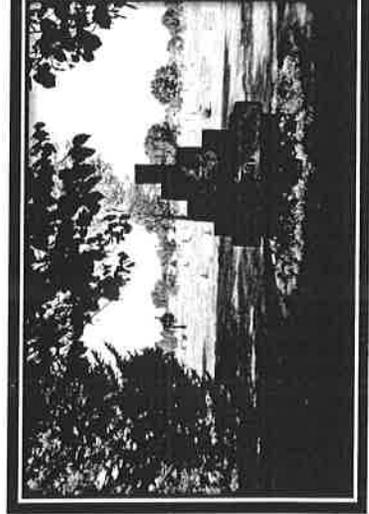
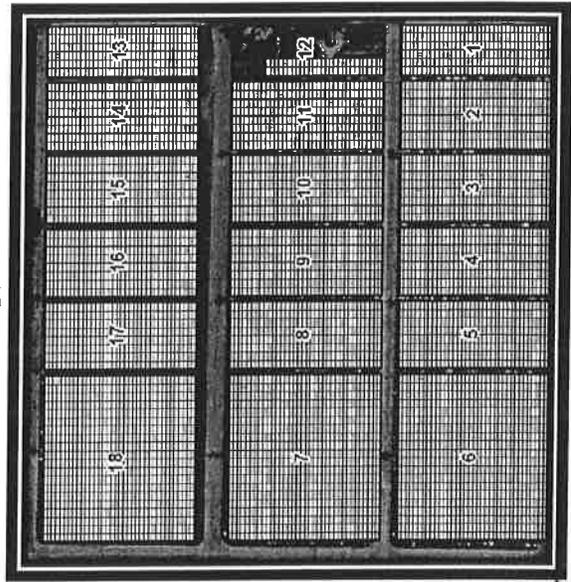
[southjordancity.org](http://southjordancity.org)

Introduction

The work in the Cemetery including, but not limited to, record keeping, landscaping, construction, interments, disinterment, grounds keeping, beautification and improvements are done under the supervision of the Sexton.

The rules and regulations governing the Cemetery provide for an order well groomed, quiet sanctuary. To achieve and maintain that status requires a joint effort between the Cemetery staff and Cemetery patrons.

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N



Payments for Opening/Closing must be paid in full 24 hours before service

Purchase of grave

Resident.....\$ 750.00

Non-Resident.....\$ 1,125.00

Perpetual Care Fee

Resident or Non-Resident.....\$ 438.00

Opening/Closing on Weekdays:

Resident.....\$ 567.00

Non-Resident.....\$ 750.00

Opening/Closing on Weekends:

Resident.....\$ 1,067.00

Non-Resident.....\$ 1,500.00

Disinterment Fee:

Weekday.....\$ 400.00

Weekend/Holiday.....\$ 600.00

Certificate (Lost or Transferred)..... 5.00

Monument Location Fee.....\$ 35.00

# HISTORY

A cemetery should be a place of beauty and quiet – a place where one can contemplate and meditate. Our South Jordan cemetery, called “The Burying Ground” by the early settlers and located at 1055 West 10750 South, certainly meets that criteria.

The land was donated to the people of our city by the James Oliver family in 1863, with the first burial being that of 2 month old John A. Bills. In the early years, each family took care of their own gravesites, which meant preparing the bodies for burial, digging the graves, marking them with white, wooden markers, and maintaining them. Each Memorial Day, the families gathered to clean, weed, and decorate each grave. Over the years, many lives were lost due to the flu epidemic of 1918, the tragic bus/train accident in 1938, and the overall lack of good medical care prior to World War II.

In 1940s, the citizens of South Jordan decided to modernize and beautify their cemetery, which resulted in the ownership of the cemetery being turned over to the city in 1945. The city then improved the cemetery including planting grass, installing a water system, building a chain-link fence around the cemetery, and establishing a perpetual maintenance care fund.

In 2002, a Veterans Memorial was created in the cemetery. The names of newly deceased veterans are added to the monument each year in a special ceremony. Future plans include an expansion of the grounds and new features for the cemetery. Much thought and effort continues to ensure that the South Jordan City cemetery will be a beautiful and quiet place.

## Paul Cunningham

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**From:** Colby Hill  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 19, 2015 3:13 PM  
**To:** Gary Whatcott; Paul Cunningham  
**Subject:** Certificate of Ownership  
**Attachments:** Certificate Sample.pdf; Certificate of Ownership.doc

Gary and Paul,

I had one of the girls send this over to me.

Thanks,  
Colby

**SOUTH JORDAN CITY MEMORIAL PARK**

No. 7809

SOUTH JORDAN, UTAH

**CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP AND BURIAL RIGHTS**

This is to certify that ..... owner,

owns ..... graves in the South Jordan City Memorial Park designated as graves:

- ..... Lot ..... Block .....

of which is hereby acknowledged as having been paid. The perpetual care fee due for the above graves has also been paid.

The owner of a grave in the City Cemetery or his heirs, successors, and assigns, owns personal property in the nature of license or right to bury a body in the grave owned, to suitably mark said grave, and to enter upon the land of the Cemetery and use the Cemetery and its facilities, all according and subject to the ordinances and regulations of the City in effect at the time of such burial, entry or use. Said ordinances and regulations are subject to change at any given time. Except as herein provided, grave ownership confers no rights upon the grave owner.

(seal)

Given under my hand this ..... day of ..... 19.....

at South Jordan City, Salt Lake County, Utah.

CLERK

**SOUTH JORDAN CITY  
REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP  
AND BURIAL RIGHTS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joint Tenant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address (If not the same)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Payment (If Transferring)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Certificate Number (If Transferring)

***Office Use Only:***

Certificate Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Original Purchase: Yes  No

Transfer: (\$5.00 Fee) Yes  No

Location: Block: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot: \_\_\_\_\_

Grave(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Public Services: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Paul Cunningham

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**From:** Gary Whatcott  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 19, 2015 3:31 PM  
**To:** 'Chip Dawson'; Paul Cunningham; Ryan Loose  
**Subject:** RE: Denial of Permission to Bury

Dear Mr. Dawson,

On behalf of the City, I offer my condolences to you and your family during this most difficult time. The loss of a close family member is an emotionally sensitive and very personal time for each member of the family and your close family friends. The City tries to offer all of its cemetery patrons time for reflection and remembrance both during the time of burial and at other times of visitation. Our cemetery is a place of reverence for all patrons. The City works hard to maintain a sense of peace and reverence at the cemetery. Especially, during the one time a year set aside for special observance on this Memorial Day Weekend. This is a time when our nation has set aside a time of all to remember those who have gone before us. This is a time to honor those who died serving our country in the various conflicts this nation has had to endure.

In light of so many who want to come to a cemetery for this special holiday, we have made a practice as do so many other cemeteries that in order to keep the spirit of remembrance and to keep sacred the memory of all parties who have lost loved ones; that no funerals will be done during Memorial weekend. We know that other graves and headstones will be impacted by your funeral and will not allow patrons to have an undisturbed gravesite, this can be terribly disruptive to those who come to the cemetery on this special weekend of observance. We also understand that those who have a burial find it distracting to have so many visitors at the cemetery that their experiences is diminished and less desirable.

I understand your frustration regarding your desire to have a funeral Saturday due to family and friends coming from out of town. Your mortuary should have known about this practice and should have advised you before any announcement of a date. No one from the City authorized this burial in advance nor has any permission been agreed to. Therefore, I am not sure how a hard date has been identified to the family or an expectation for a service to be provided. The City, regardless of this holiday weekend, has the right to schedule burials and in fact, burials only occur after confirmation of such by the City to the family and or mortuary. We do our best to accommodate patrons and families but we cannot always meet everyone's expectations.

This practice for Memorial Day weekend has been in place for many years for the reasons I have addressed and all mortuaries know that Memorial Day weekend is not a time for a funeral. For the good of all who want to observe this weekend I believe this is a good practice and should be held up and therefore will not .

I am willing to discuss this with you further in person if needed.

Respectfully,

**Gary Whatcott | City Manager | City of South Jordan**  
1600 W. Towne Center Drive | South Jordan, UT 84095  
Office: 801.254.3742 | Fax: 801.253.5235



**From:** Chip Dawson [mailto:dawsonchip@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 19, 2015 14:25  
**To:** Gary Whatcott; Paul Cunningham; Ryan Loose  
**Subject:** Denial of Permission to Bury

Dear City Manager Whatcott, City Attorney Loose, and Chief of Staff Cunningham,

On behalf of my family, I am formally requesting permission to bury my mother at the South Jordan Memorial Park on Saturday, May 23, 2015. If you are unable to accommodate this request, would you please reply electronically to this email address.

When Steve and Julie Dawson purchased the four plots in 2009, we were under the understanding that we would be able to use the property which we purchased, at a time of our choosing.

Today I was informed by Mr. Cunningham that Public Works and the Parks Supervisor did not want to open any burial plots on Friday, Saturday, Sunday or Monday on this upcoming weekend because they felt it would interfere with others who would already be there, or because they deemed it would not be feasible to do so.

Nothing in the materials presented or represented to our family indicated any restriction on the time or date of burial.

Furthermore, no regular notice is given to plot owners of upcoming restricted dates, allowing them to make alternate plans, in the event they choose or need to use their burial plots.

As we have family who are traveling at a great distance, we are asking for an immediate response.

Please be aware, will be submitting a formal GRAMA request for all policies and related to the South Jordan City Memorial Park, and all records related to the purchase by Steve Dawson of four burial plots at the City Memorial Park.

Sincerely,

**Chip Dawson, M.P.A.**  
[dawsonchip@gmail.com](mailto:dawsonchip@gmail.com)  
(801) 254-4223 Home  
11528 Lake Run Road  
South Jordan, UT 84095