

Delbert J. Crisman
AEHC featured person for the week of Mar 7, 2021

Delbert J. Crisman
March 9, 1938 – April 23, 2018

Born this week in 1938, Delbert J. Crisman is buried in our cemetery's Section 6, Lot 180, Space 3.

Summary of our research: Delbert Jay Crisman was born in Decatur County, Indiana on March 9, 1938 to William J. and Delphia Marie (Watkins) Crisman. He married Judith Ann Small of Shelbyville on June 19, 1960.

William J. Crisman was born in Kentucky in 1896 to William K (1867-1942) and Eliza "Lizzie" (Hayes) (1874-1941) Crisman. William J. (1896-1984) married Delphia Marie (Watkins) (1909-1988) in 1932 and they relocated to Decatur County, IN. They later moved into Rush County. William J. Crisman worked at Shelbyville Desk Company. They had four sons- Dillard, Delbert, Alfred, and William H. Crisman. William J., Delphia Marie, and William H. Crisman are buried at Arlington East Hill Cemetery. Dillard Wayne Crisman is buried at Bennett Cemetery in Shelbyville.

Delbert Crisman graduated from Manilla High School in 1956 and was on the school basketball team. On June 19, 1960, Delbert married Judith "Judy" Ann (Small) of Shelbyville. Judy was born on September 18, 1938 to Russell and Ida Fern (Mason) Small.

The Small family came to Shelby County from New York through Ohio. Edward Small (1835-1916) was born in New York and relocated to Ohio. After serving in the Civil War, he settled in Shelby County, Indiana. Edward married Mary (Morrison) (1847-1928) and became a successful businessman. One of their sons, George (1875-1950) married Mary (Fagel) (1875-1943) in 1896. George was listed on Census reports as a Wallpaper Hanger and Interior Decorator. One of George and Mary's sons, Russell Scott Small (1914-1996) married Ida Fern (Mason) (1913-2001). Russell worked as a Project Engineer for the Indiana State Highway Department. Russell S and Ida Fern (Mason) Small were Judy's parents. The members of the Small family listed are buried in Forest Hill Cemetery in Shelbyville.

Delbert and Judy resided and farmed in Rush County for almost their entire adult lives. From 1988 to 2018, Delbert and Judy served as the sextons of our cemetery.

During their 30 years of service to our cemetery, they worked approximately 1016 interments, open and closed 960 graves, sold 624 grave spaces, mowed 868 times, and trimmed around the monuments and trees 500 times. It was not a business to them; it was a labor of love. They would rarely take any time off. Delbert and Judy wanted to make certain that every family was served with dignity and respect. These are the same ideals and dedication that we continue to put forth at our cemetery.

Delbert passed away on August 23, 2018. He was survived by his wife of 58 years, Judith A. (Small), one son- Daniel, two grandsons- Dawson & Mason, and one brother- Alfred.

Judith “Judy” A. (Small) Crisman passed away December 6, 2019. She is buried next to her husband. She was survived by their son, two grandsons, and one sister.

Arlington East Hill Cemetery Association appreciates and will always remember the hard work and dedication of the Crismans.

(sources: Ancestry, Find-a-Grave, Newspaper archives, and Arlington East Hill Cemetery records)

More information about our cemetery and its history can be found at www.arlingtoneasthillcemetery.com



