There are stars up above,
so far away we only see their light
long, long after the star itself is gone.
And so it is with people that we loved—
their memories keep shining ever brightly
though their time with us is done.
But the stars that light up the darkest night,
these are the lights that guide us.
As we live our days, these are the ways to remember.

Hannah Senesh, Mishkan T’filah

Through the ages, Jewish communities, large and small, have provided for one another. As a community, we share in life’s events. Together we celebrate the joys of birth, B’ni Mitzvot, and weddings. Inevitably we mourn together the death of loved ones.

Jewish communities have historically purchased land for a cemetery and provided a school for their children before building a sanctuary. In keeping with Jewish tradition, Beth Shalom has fulfilled that sacred trust and purchased land for a Jewish cemetery.

The Jewish cemetery is located within the Rolling Hills Burial Park of Winter Haven and is marked by two stone pillars donated by Beth Shalom families.

Jewish funeral and burial rites honor the deceased and provide comfort to the mourners. All members of Jewish families are welcome to be buried in our cemetery, regardless of their religious background.

At time of death, thoughtful considered decisions are essential. Jewish families who want to follow tradition often seek the help of a nearby Temple or Synagogue to assist them through this difficult time.

Beth Shalom will assist both members and non-members with funeral arrangements and ritual, whether or not burial is in the Jewish Cemetery. We will help procure rabbinic services if requested. Members of our congregation are also available to lead memorial services and shivah, and to officiate at unveilings.

The cemetery is regulated by the city of Winter Haven and congregational policy. Cemetery plots may be purchased directly from Temple Beth Shalom.

January, 2012

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<th>Costs</th>
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All fees are subject to change.

Temple Beth Shalom maintains a yahrzeit list for members as well as a perpetual yahrzeit list of those who died while members of the congregation. The deceased need not be of the Jewish faith. Names are read aloud at all services held during the anniversary month of the death. A reminder notice is sent to the family. Beth Shalom also prepares a Yiskor list which is distributed at the Yom Kippur Yiskor service. It includes all names on the yahrzeit list. In addition, Temple Beth Shalom has placed a memorial board in the main sanctuary. Memory plaques may be purchased for $150.00. The plaque is lit during the month of the yahrzeit.

Inquiries may be directed to the Memorial Committee. Please call the Congregation at (863) 292 0722. A member of the Memorial Committee will return your call.
Beth Shalom Cemetery Guidelines

1. The rights of burial in the Temple Beth Shalom Cemetery are limited to members of the Congregation, their spouses, and their children, or step-children. Lots are available at member prices.

2. Jewish non-members and their immediate family may purchase spaces and burial rights at the non-member price.

3. Upon the death of the owner of the space(s), any previously acquired spaces remain in the possession of the survivors, providing that these spaces have been paid in full.

4. The rights of burial held by a member continue only as long as he or she is a member. A former member may purchase burial rights at the cost of a single annual membership fee.

5. The authority and responsibility for all cemetery affairs is vested in the Cemetery Committee appointed by the President of the Congregation. This committee consists of a chairman and two members.

6. All moneys pertaining to the cemetery are kept in a separate account by the treasurer of the congregation.

7. Lots and spaces may be purchased from the Beth Shalom Cemetery committee. Prices are cash. Extended payments may be negotiated with the Committee with the approval of the board.

8. Any ritual of internment within Beth Shalom Cemetery is to be conducted by a rabbi or other member of the Jewish faith. Services by Fraternal Orders may be conducted following the aforementioned ritual, and must be of a non-denominational and non-religious nature.

9. All graves may have a flat marker level with the ground in compliance with the rules of the Rolling Hills Cemetery.

10. Family stones are those that are upright and above ground. These are permitted if in compliance with the rules of the Rolling Hills Cemetery and additional limitations established by the Board of Directors of Temple Beth Shalom.

11. Only Jewish religious symbols may be displayed on any marker or family stone.

12. Any member may transfer his or her burial spaces to another member with the approval of the Board for a transfer fee of $50.00.

13. Lots may not be sold except back to the Congregation for the original purchase price less a $50.00 transfer fee and any obligation owed by the seller.