Each time you enter the campus of the University of Richmond, you can sense the history of this special place. The University, founded almost two centuries ago, is located on a 350-acre campus of stately pines, rolling hills, beautiful Westhampton Lake, and more than 50 buildings of distinctive Collegiate Gothic architecture. At the heart of this community is Cannon Memorial Chapel.

On the east side of the chapel is the University of Richmond's Columbarium and Memorial Garden. This serene and beautiful site stands as a tradition for University of Richmond alumni, faculty, staff, and their families. Dignified and timeless in design, the Columbarium blends in beautifully with the chapel and its surrounding area. Brick walkways provide comfortable access, and its location, close to the chapel, offers privacy for services, visits, and prayer.
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In the ground without a container. As with an inurnment, family members may decide when to gather in the garden to do this—before or after a memorial service, or at a later date. The name, birth date, and date of death can be engraved on the central memorial plaque located in the garden. The cost to scatter ashes in the Memorial Garden is $350 per person.

The purchase of a Columbarium niche entitles the purchaser to perpetual use. The University of Richmond will retain property rights and assumes responsibility for perpetual care of the Columbarium, the garden, and the surrounding area.

COMFORT AND SECURITY

The virtues of planning ahead have long been extolled and extend beyond the responsibilities of financial concerns. The comfort and security that comes when a family knows the final wishes of a loved one are being honored brings consolation at a time when it is most needed. People often make decisions about their final arrangements at the time their wills are drawn, and feel a great sense of accomplishment and relief when their plans are in order.

APPROACHES TO USING THE COLUMBARIUM

There are several approaches available to families choosing inurnment in the Columbarium. You may choose for cremation to be performed shortly after death, followed by a memorial service either soon after or at a later date. The presence of the urn containing the ashes at the service is one of personal choice.

Inurnment in the Columbarium can follow a service and can be done in the presence of family and friends. Inurnment can also precede the service, while some choose to delay inurnment until a later date altogether. Inurnment also accommodates those families who want to have an arrangement with a funeral home that includes visitation hours and a service. The funeral home can arrange for cremation to take place afterward, and inurnment at the University of Richmond’s Columbarium can follow.

A staff member of a funeral home can provide the necessary financial information for such arrangements.

NEW OPPORTUNITY BASED ON AN OLD AND HONORED TRADITION

The Columbarium is a safe, permanent, and peaceful place where people come on a regular basis. It is a place imbued with a rich sense of history and sacredness. When names are inscribed on the granite plates covering the niches in the Columbarium, these persons and their stories become part of the University of Richmond’s long and distinguished history.
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