

## Muslim Burial

Asalamu alaikum :

Alhuda Foundation has entered into an agreement with Oaklawn Gardens Cemetery to buy 150 grave yard sites with option to buy additional ones in the future. This action by the Board of Trustees and the support of our community members is done to provide our Muslim community with a Muslim burial ground in the northeast side of the greater Indianapolis area. Having a section of Oaklawn Gardens Cemetery makes it convenient for our community members to attend Janaza prayers and Janaza without having to travel long distances. This location would also make it easier for us to visit our beloved brothers and sisters who passed away and buried at this cemetery.

Oaklawn Gardens Cemetery is located at 9700 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, approximately 2.5 miles south of the intersection of Allisonville Road and 116<sup>th</sup> Street. The total distance from Masjid Alhuda to the cemetery on Allisonville Road is approximately 4.3 miles. Grave sites can be obtained in advance or at the time of death. Our cemetery committee is dedicated to assist any of us during the difficult time of losing a loved one and will try their best to make the process as simple as possible. A grave site costs \$3000 including the land plot, opening and closing of the grave and the concrete container required for burial.

Sheikh Youssef Elagami, volunteers and deceased family members can perform the ghusul and kafan for a deceased man or a male child. This can be done at the hospital or a funeral home that is handling the funeral. If the deceased is a woman or a female child, then the Alhuda women's group can do the ghusul and kafan for the deceased. Sr. nila Din may be contacted at (317) 574-9209 or (317) 453-0373. Other sisters on this committee usually volunteer to help with this task.

Brother Ali S Abufares of Alhuda Foundation Cemetery Committee may be contacted at (317) 443-3726 to help make funeral arrangements and coordinate with Oaklawn Gardens Cemetery for the transfer of the grave site ownership from Alhuda Foundation to the deceased family. Decisions regarding choosing a funeral home services and burial date and time are the responsibility of the deceased family and need to be coordinated with Br. Abufares to insure that the grave site will be ready in time for burial. Brother Jihad Sayyah may be reached at (317) 946-2575 in the absence of Br. Abufares.

The family of the deceased will need to make their own arrangement with a funeral home. Alhuda may assist them in the following manner by recommending the use of one of the following funeral homes:

1. If the family can manage the ghusul and the kafan at the hospital or other facility, then, we can recommend:

**Shirley Brothers**  
**9900 Allisonville Road**  
**Fishers, Indiana 46038**  
**(317) 897-9606**  
**Contact Name: Fred Shirley**

2. If ghusul and kafan cannot be done at the hospital, then we utilize:

**Lavinia Smith & Summers Home for Funerals**  
**5811 East 38th Street**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46218-5159**  
**(317) 547-5814**  
**Contact Name: Natalie**