

Exploring the Cemetery: The Seabers and Frys

While driving through the cemetery, have you ever noticed and wondered about the large Seaber monument that anchors the northwest corner of the main cemetery, right by the turn in the road? It's a large monument on two lots with just two footstones. These are the only Seabers in the cemetery. Who are these people, and why are they buried here?



Samuel James Seaber (July 14, 1906-Sept. 11, 1954) was the oldest son of Nathaniel Seaber. Samuel was born in Philadelphia, although the family later returned to Lititz, and Nathaniel closed out his career at the Animal Trap Co.

Samuel's grandfather, also named Samuel, was born in Lititz in 1834, served in the Civil War, and for ten years was postmaster of Lititz. Virtually all of the Seaber family are buried in the Moravian Churchyard.

Samuel James Seaber's wife was Luella Virginia Fry (Jan. 27, 1910- Mar. 21, 1942) whose short life was ended by a perforated colon due to diverticulitis. They had no children, although Samuel remarried and had two children by his second wife, Nancy Hoover. Samuel himself was only 48 when he succumbed to kidney cancer.

Samuel and Luella are buried in this cemetery because Luella's parents were Martin Fry (owner of Fry's Printing Co.) and Victoria Shiffer Fry; Luella's grandparents were Emanuel Fry and Jemima Keller Fry. All of these Frys all buried in the cemetery.

Martin and his wife, Victoria own the plot adjacent to the Seabers, and only three people are buried there: Martin, Victoria, and daughter Alta. Martin died at age 91, having worked at his printing press until a few weeks before his death in 1976.

These people liked room to spread out. And as I've noted before, it is usually the wife who determines the place of burial. The final word, you might say.

