

# Supervisors Okay Cemetery In Aptos

By Wallace Wood  
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There was no stopping a proposed cemetery near Aptos yesterday, as county supervisors turned back appeals against the use by a 4 to 1 vote.

With only Robert Burton objecting, Supervisors Tom Black, Vincent Locatelli, Henry Mello and Russ McCallie upheld the decision by the county board of zoning adjustment to approve the cemetery.

Another hearing is set for 11:30 a.m. next Tuesday to go over a list of conditions for the the Mountain Shadows Memorial Park proposed by Edward Madigan of Oakland. It would be located off Freedom Boulevard, about a mile from Rob Roy Junction.

Madigan's attorney, Eugene Adams, argued the park is necessary because present cemetery space "would be gone in 10 years" if population increases as expected.

He noted there are 1400 deaths here yearly and 4700 yearly are expected by 1990. Even by enlarging present cemeteries, there are only 37,000 spaces available, he claimed.

Mountain Shadows would have 48,000 burial spaces, plus 18,000 spaces in crypts and mausoleums, Adams said, once its 128 acres are fully developed. Full development over a long period would lead to three columbariums, two mausoleums, two chapels, a mortuary, a crematorium, and 40 acres of ground burial.

One of the conditions supervisors said they want is that no gravestones will be above ground.

Residents and property owners in the area filed a map showing how they virtually ring the cemetery, and said they object to the use. At least two asked the board to move the mortuary and crematorium building location shown on maps, since it would be directly below their properties. But the board did not act.

Appeals against the use were filed by three different

persons or groups. Attorney Gordon Eustice, a neighboring property owner from Los Altos, charged, "This is big money somewhere, or big financing, or something." He said his research failed to uncover the names of the "Old Ranch Associates" who are selling the property to Madigan, and claimed Madigan's name was not on file with the real estate commission in Sacramento.

Adams, however, pointed out Madigan heads the Vita Diablo Homes Company which built homes and apartments in El Cerrito, Piedmont and Concord. He admitted, though, he knew only one seller in the Old Ranch Associates group named "Wilson." He also rejected Eustice's claim Madigan just had an option on part of the property, and said a sale contract is waiting for permit approval.

Other property owners and residents who objected include John Titus, Don Sechel, Mrs. Clyde Philpott, Mrs. Lois Wood, Diana Thompson and Arnaz Lewis. Other persons filed letters of objection, including Mary Cox, June McFadden and Monterey Naval Postgraduate School Professor Glen Smith.

Adams presented the board with a list of 97 "endorsements" favoring the cemetery-type use. He said "many" were from the immediate area.

Burton jumped on the list, jointing out the persons who signed it lived in Santa Cruz, Ben Lomond, Felton, Soquel, Watsonville, Capitola and other areas far away from the use.

Adams agreed that "anyone who doesn't have an interest in the property in that area doesn't belong on the list."

Though the Aptos area general plan lists the area as rural residential development, County Planning Director Bert Muhly said there is no conflict, since cemeteries are never listed in general plans here.

The planning staff recommended the use, saying the area was fairly well screened by high ridges and had good access.