

Ridgeway Cemetery holds unique monument

Walt Racker | Special to The Herald-Chronicle

Kansas has long been known for its unique cemetery monuments - from the famous Brown Memorial in Hiawatha, to Abe Lincoln's brother-in-law, Nathan Grigsby, whose tombstone in Attica warns future generations about the dangers of the Democratic Party. But one of the least understood monuments in the Sunflower State can be found in Osage County, in Ridgeway Cemetery a few miles north of Overbrook.

It is easily recognized as the most imposing monument in the cemetery with its four large corner concrete posts supporting three horizontal panels, surrounding a cluster of upright marble panels. The eastern panel



Wayne White/Herald-Chronicle

Hiram K. Reilly's gravesite, Ridgeway Cemetery.

shows Hiram K. Reilly's name and dates of his birth and the erection of the monument. The smaller upright panels are inscribed

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Clifford C. O'Bryhim began the family business in 1932. He continued to run the store until the mid 1950's. Then Clifford's son Bernard took the helm and Bernard moved the location and expanded the store in the 1960's. Bernard's son Cliff continued the tradition beginning in the 1980's. Cliff has expanded the store twice since then. Today the fourth generation, Brad and Chad O'Bryhim, are involved with checking and carrying out groceries for customers.

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