Create an Epitaph

Materials
- Examples of epitaphs (real or made up)
- Student biographies for each Evergreen Cemetery Walk featured character

Procedure
- Discuss what an epitaph is with students (a phrase or statement written in memory of a person who died, especially as an inscription on a tombstone or monument).
- Show a few photographs of examples of epitaphs on stones and have the students read them aloud.
- Discuss as a class what that epitaph might mean about the person who it was written about.
- Have students read the student version of the character biographies (split them into small groups and assign a character to each).
- After reading the biographies, have the students write a short epitaph for each character.
- Share the epitaphs with the class and discuss.
- Additional activity- students could write their own epitaph or about a family member who has passed away.
Create an Epitaph

Example 1
Create an Epitaph

Example 2

Die Liebe höret nimmer auf. (Love never fails).
Getrennt und nicht geschieden (Separated and not divorced)
Create an Epitaph

Example 3

MISS MELINDA RANKIN
March 21, 1811
Dec. 6, 1888

The Pioneer Protestant
Missionary in Mexico

A remarkable example of
Earth, Courage, and Conservation
She rests in peace
Her ways do follow her.
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Example 4

Mary E. F. Wood
Wife of
Alfred Freeman
Born in Hagerstown Md.
May 7, 1837
Died May 22, 1906

She was kind to all living creatures,
especially to children and animals.