

**CLARK RANCH**

CLARK BUILDING
1031 PINE STREET
PASO ROBLES CALIFORNIA 93446
PHONE (805) 236-2225
FAX (805) 238-1324
williamclark@clarkranch.us



19 October 2004

Ken Magdaleno, Chair
Sharon Troll, Vice Chair
Commissioners: Christopher Lopez, Suz Montgomery-Hart,
Bill Varela, Ed Wehan, and Jim White
Judy Devine, Community Services Manager
Mike Montoya, Parks Manager
Parks & Recreation Commission, City of San Buenaventura
501 Poli Street
Ventura, California 93001

RE: City Memorial Park

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

As I am unable to be present at this meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commissioners, I have asked that this letter expressing my thoughts in regard to City Memorial Park be read.

As I understand it, at least nine members of our pioneer family repose in the cemetery park, including my great-grandparents Michael Hugh and Margaret Lynch Clark, as well as Michael's two siblings and their wives. I am morally certain the family acquired this sanctified earth and their headstones in the expectation of perpetual use and care.

While you cannot erase the errors of the 1960s, recompense might include:

1. Mark the graves of the 3,000+ buried within the pale. At least, construct a memorial bearing their names and relevant dates.
2. Retrieve available headstones and establish a secure section of the cemetery for their display. These headstones are priceless witnesses to the City and County's history.
3. Identify the site as a cemetery with appropriate signage.

This ground is hallowed and should be treated accordingly.

Sincerely,

William P. Clark

Justice (Ret.)

cc: City Council Members