



Q. What inspired this idea?

A. *Gazing across the horizon from the cemetery's southeast hillside in spring of 2019, I was struck by the deep connection that indigenous peoples must have felt for this land. To this day, not a single building or structure blocks one's view of the southern skyline. I wondered if those standing on the same slope a hundred years from now would still be able to experience this profound sense of place. The Circle of Life -- a visual allegory of nature's perseverance -- was created with the enduring hope that they will.*

*For half a century, Washington DC has been my home, with a career that combined education, media, politics, and partnership building. Now it's my life outdoors -- cultivating the garden, beekeeping, wandering off the beaten path, kayaking the Potomac, and caring for the earth -- that nurtures my soul.*

<https://congressionalcemetery.org/circle-of-life/#background-collaborators>