

## Buchanan, Brian J (US SSA)

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**From:** Miami Indians [miamiindians@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2011 12:15 PM  
**To:** Buchanan, Brian J (US SSA); brian buchanan; john dunnagan  
**Subject:** Fw: The Miami Tribe and Pioneer burial sites at Deer Creek, Indiana

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**From:** david coomler <hokku@spiretech.com>  
**To:** miamiindians@sbcglobal.net  
**Cc:** gstrack@miamination.com  
**Sent:** Fri, May 20, 2011 10:15:25 AM  
**Subject:** The Miami Tribe and Pioneer burial sites at Deer Creek, Indiana

Here is some pertinent information regarding an old Miami Tribe burial ground at Deer Creek Subdivision, Miami County, Indiana, where the neighboring Waisner-Rickard pioneer cemetery (in which some of my ancestors are buried) has been desecrated by construction of a house and septic tank; and as far as I know, no action has been taken to protect the nearby Miami burial ground site from development or other improper use. The Miami County commissioners are currently holding meetings about issuing a building permit so that the house that recently burned on the pioneer cemetery site can be rebuilt. So I thought these events would be of interest to the descendants of the Miami Tribe.

The Kokomo Tribune for July 20, 1926 had an article containing these words:

"In 1768, while Washington was in the prime of his youth, a boy was born in the home of a humble eastern colonist named Rickard, who in later life moved to the Indiana forest, rolling over wooded trails and guarding his caravan at night against the possible invasion of Indians. **Settling among the Miami Indians**, he did much toward the laying of the foundations upon which the prosperity of the community is build, and underwent hardships untold. This morning the stone that marked his grave was carefully dug from the sod of the old burial place and fitted together. From it the following was deciphered: '**Anthony Rickard--Died October 8, 1846. Age 78 yrs. --onths --ys.**'"

And *there is specific mention of the Miami burial ground* close by:

"Mr. Richey, claiming some 86 years, stated that his father had "laid out" the last of the pioneers to be buried in the cemetery, and that he remembered the funerals well. **He also told of the traditional burial ground of the Miamis on the opposite side of the ravine.**"

As further confirmation of the presence of the Miami Tribe in that place, attached you will find a census page for the town of Deer Creek, Indiana, for the year 1850. You will note the name "Martindale" as the surname of several people on it. Martindale is among the names of those