

**October Birth Flowers**

The Marigold and The Cosmos

Marigolds traditionally symbolized despair and grief over a loved one. It may be surprising that such a cheerful flower is associated with the dead. However, for many cultures, its those neon-bright orange and yellow hues that represent the sunrays or light paths that guide their dearly departed. The bright orange and yellow hues also represent the beauty and warmth of the rising Sun, and its power to resurrect. Today, we often focus more on sunny colors of the marigold, representing optimism and prosperity.



Cosmos are a symbol of order, peace, and serenity. The name Cosmos comes from the Greek *kosmos*, meaning order, harmony, or the world. Spanish mission priests in Mexico cultivated cosmos in the mission gardens, and gave it this name because of its “evenly placed petals.” Not only is order and harmony expressed in the blossom’s symmetry, grace, and simplicity, but also in the symmetrically balanced, regularly-doubled production of leaf and blossom stems.



*Current Project*

The spotlight this month is on a recent masterpiece of step building by Marvin and his accomplished team. The plan and layout evolved as construction progressed due to site factors but that was no problem for the team. The finished product is nothing less than impressive. The project

plate here was full with a fire pit patio, water feature, retaining walls, and intensive grading. Many thanks to our friends up on the hilltop for this blue ribbon winner.



**Before**

