

HOW CAN CREMATED REMAINS REST IN PEACE?

More people are choosing cremation every year. They value the variety of options to create a unique memorial for a loved one and more time to make those decisions. You can wait for family to gather, shop for the right urn, and take time to find that special place while the cremated remains are housed in a temporary container at your home.

Chances are, you or someone you know has cremated remains at home. Estimates are that over two million sets of cremated remains are abandoned at the crematory, stored on the closet shelf at home or tucked away in a storage locker.

But cremation means that a decision can be made at any time, from the time of death or even if the person died years or decades ago. When the family is ready to make the final placement, months or even decades from now, you can contact a funeral home and a cemetery to find the right space.

THE OPTIONS

- Purchase an urn for display at home and eventual placement in a columbarium or burial in a cemetery.
- Scatter on land or water in accordance with applicable laws.
- Keepsakes are not permanent placement but are a wonderful option to divide cremated remains among family and friends and transform them into a memento.

You have an incredible range of options for memorialization so have the conversation. What is best for you and your family?

IN THE CEMETERY OR CHURCHYARD

Permanent placement in a cemetery not only provides a lasting tribute to a loved one, but also a place to visit and gather together. You can rest assured that the remains are cared for and that a key to family history is preserved for future generations.

A cemetery has a duty of perpetual care for those placed on its grounds and provides a place to visit for centuries to come. For cremated remains, cemeteries have many options including: traditional burial in the ground or a vault, on display in an urn with cherished memories in a glass-front niche, scattered in a special space, and other standing monuments like benches or statues. Take a walk through and see what feels right to you.



MEMORIALIZATION OPTIONS
AS UNIQUE AS YOUR LOVED ONE



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UNIQUE AND PERSONAL: A PLACE THAT IS SPECIAL TO YOU

If you feel a special connection to a particular location, you may be able to scatter cremated remains there (in accordance with the laws). Ask permission on private property and ask a funeral director about the rules for public spaces. When scattering, you may prefer an urn designed with convenient openings or one that dissolves or biodegrades. Your funeral director can recommend meaningful and practical options.

Cremated remains also find placement in some unique places: as a reef sunk in the ocean, launched into space, or scattered in remote locations. A funeral director can help you find and coordinate with companies that specialize in arranging such options.

Once cremated remains are scattered, remember that they are irretrievable and often unmarked. Traveling to that spot to visit with them may be difficult, and future generations may lose that tie to their ancestor. In these cases, a permanent memorial can provide a place to visit even when the cremated remains are not present. Having a plaque, statue, or other engraved marker in a cemetery records the life lived. Consideration and remembrance of others is what life and memorializing are all about.

KEEPSAKES: HELPING YOU TO KEEP YOUR LOVED ONE CLOSE

Cremation also allows for part of a loved one to stay close forever, shared among family and friends. Small portions of cremated remains can be stored at home in keepsake urns, in specially-designed jewelry or charms, and or even be made into diamonds. Some artists incorporate small amounts of remains in the creation of glass sculptures, ceramic vases, or paintings. You can also place your loved one's fingerprint or photo on a pendant, engraved onto a statue, or even woven into a blanket. The opportunities are endless, and since each memento only takes a small portion, you can make several keepsakes and memorialize the remainder of the remains. Let your creativity reign and ask your funeral director about different options.

ALL OF THE ABOVE

Cremated remains can also be divided among family to find their own special place at a cemetery, in nature, in a keepsake, all at the same time. Cremation allows the family to divide the remains to make creative and meaningful decisions that honor their loved one.

AVOID REGRET: DON'T DO NOTHING

Cremation can sometimes present an overwhelming array of options, but it also provides the time to reflect on what feels right.

Cremation provides opportunity for creativity and a memorial as unique as the life lived. The only recommendation we make is "Don't do nothing." Urns can be removed from niches or disinterred from plots to make keepsakes. Remains that were scattered remotely can be memorialized at the cemetery or other location for future visits. Understand your options so you won't make the wrong choice for your loved ones.

