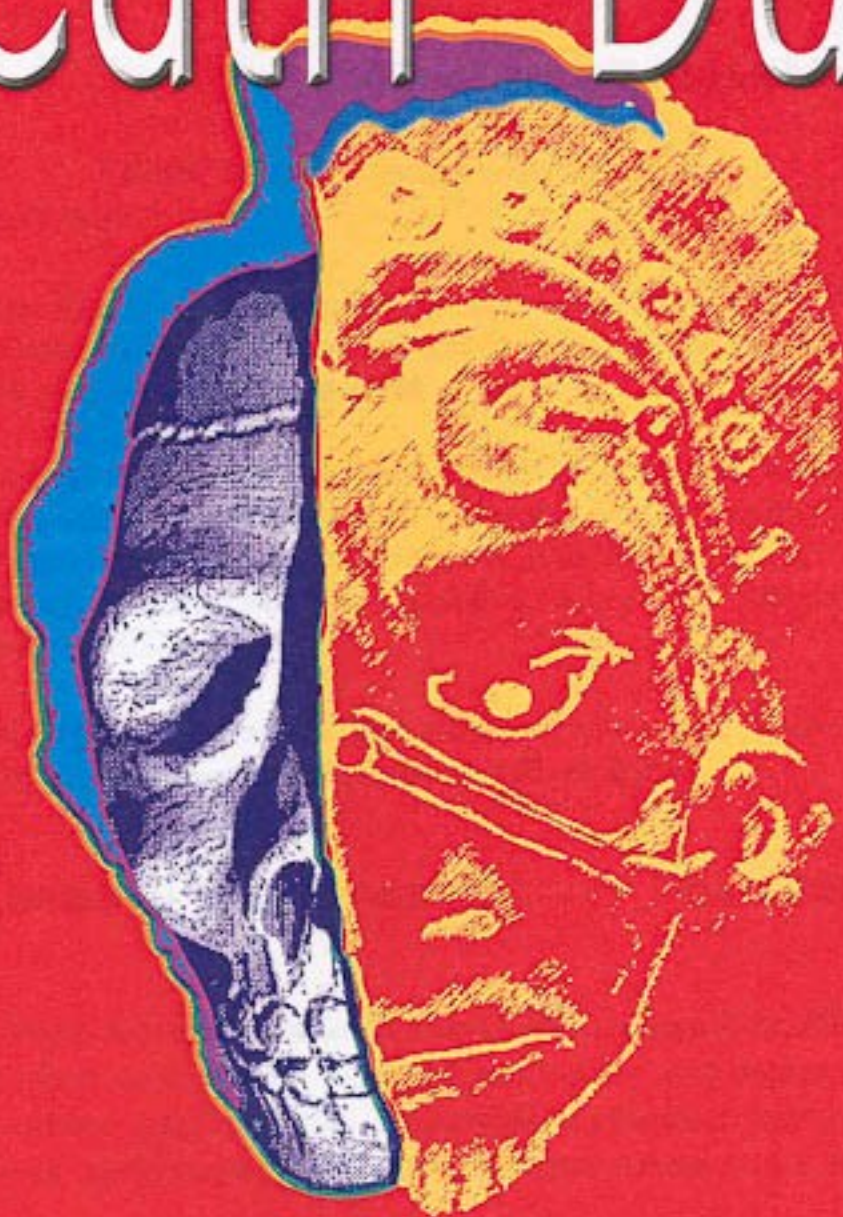


Death ^{to} Dust



What Happens to Dead
Bodies?

Kenneth V. Iserson, M.D.

Second
Edition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Iserson KV: *Death To Dust: What Happens To Dead Bodies? Second Edition*
Galen Press, Ltd. Tucson, AZ, 2001, 821 pages.
More than 2,000 References

1. Dying to Know: Introduction.

A. Why write this book? B. How is this book organized? C. How can you use the information in this book?

2: I'm Dead-Now What?

A. Why do people die? B. What is death? C. What is death by brain criteria? D. How is death by brain criteria determined? , E. Is persistent vegetative state the same as death by brain criteria? F Who can pronounce me dead? G. What is a death certificate, who can sign it, and what does it cost? H. How will they know I'm really dead? I. When have physicians erred in pronouncing death? J. Are there real cases of premature burials? K. What precautions have been taken to prevent premature burial? L. Who was buried alive intentionally? M. What can happen to my body when I die? N. What will happen to my body when I die? O. How does my name get in the newspaper?

3: Help for the Living: Organ, Tissue, &Whole-BodyDonation

A. What is organ and tissue donation and transplantation? B. Why donate organs and tissues? C. Who donates cadaver organs and tissues in the United States? D. Who donates cadaver organs and tissues elsewhere in the world? E. Who actually becomes an organ and tissue donor? E How do I become an organ/tissue donor? G. What do religions,law, and cultures say about postmortem organ/tissue donation or transplantation? H. Can I donate blood after death? I. What are the steps in postmortem organ and tissue donations? J. How are organs and tissues procured? K. How are donor organs and tissues distributed? L. Do families know where the organs go? Do recipients know where the organs came from? M. What happens to the body after donation? N. What does it cost to donate organs? Can I donate my whole body to a medical school? P. By what other means have bodies become dissection cadavers? Q. How else have bodies been obtained for dissection? R. Have "dead" criminals been used for anatomical dissection? S. How are bodies prepared as dissection cadavers? T. Why dissect cadavers? U. How do medical students dissect cadavers? V. In what other ways do doctors and researchers use dead bodies?

4: The Autopsy: My Body and the Pathologist.

A. What is a morgue and how long will my body be there? . B How do nurses prepare bodies for the morgue? C. What if I die at home? D. What is an autopsy and who performs it? E. Why do autopsies? F. Will I have an autopsy? G. Who gives permission for an autopsy? H. After an autopsy, can I still be embalmed? ,I. Why doesn't everyone get autopsied? J. How is an autopsy done? K. How do autopsy techniques vary? L. Are autopsies harmful to pathologists? M. What is a medical examiner/coroner? :N. How long have physicians been doing medicolegal autopsies? O. What is special about a medicolegal autopsy? P. Why is an autopsy done on a decomposing or dismembered body? Q. How can a person be identified from partial or decomposed remains? R. What happens if they cannot identify my body? S. How is the time of death determined? T. What happens to the organs, tissues, and medical devices examined at autopsy? U. What is an exhumation? V. What happens to miscarried fetuses and stillborn infants? W. What are common religious views about autopsies? X. How do I get the autopsy report? Y What does an autopsy cost?

5: Beauty in Death

A. What do undertakers do? B. What does a funeral director do? C. Who is included in the funeral industry? D. What training do embalmers have? E. What are some funeral industry buzzwords? E How do funeral homes differ? G. What are some traditional preparation rites for bodies? H. What is embalming? I. Why embalm a body? J. What is natural embalming? K. How has intentional embalming occurred in the past? L. How did modern embalming develop? M. How is a body prepared for embalming? N. What is restoration? O. How are cosmetics used on the corpse? P: What restoration techniques are used for organ and tissue donors? Q. How is a body embalmed today? R. Are embalming and restoration always successful? S. How is a body prepared for viewing? T. What is postmortem photography? U. How does a mummy differ from an embalmed body? How were mummies intentionally prepare? W How have the living used mummies? X. Are there any modern mummies? Y. Can all bodies be embalmed? Z. Must all bodies be embalmed? AA. What are religious &: legal attitudes toward embalming? AB. How much does embalming cost?

6:The Eternal Flame

A. What is cremation? B. What is direct cremation? C. How long has cremation been used? D. Why did our ancestors cremate bodies? E. How did modern society reinstitute cremation? E Why use cremation today? G. Who uses cremation? H. Can

any body be cremated? I. Is a casket or coffin required for cremation? J. Can any casket or coffin be cremated? K. What are crematoria? Where are they located? L. What are columbaria? , M. What kind of ceremony accompanies cremation? N. What are cremation rituals in other countries? O. Can my family observe the cremation? P: What happens to the body during cremation? Q. How long does it take to cremate a body? R. What is left after cremation? S. Are these really my ashes? T. What is typically done with the ashes? U. May I bury the ashes? V. Where may the ashes be scattered? W What are urns and cremation memorials? X. What unusual dispositions have been used for cremains? Y. Are there problems with cremation in foreign countries? Z. What do various religions say about cremation? AA. What is the funeral industry's response to cremation? AB. How much does cremation cost?

7:Souls on Ice

A. What is cryonic suspension? B. Whose were the first bodies frozen? C. What is the scientific view of cryonic preservation? D. Can any body be frozen? E. How is a body frozen? E How does nature freeze bodies? G. Could I just have my brain frozen? H. How secure would my frozen body be? I. What are the prospects of successfully reviving a cryonically frozen body? J. Should I believe in cryonics? K. What are new cryonics alternatives? L. What problems would there be if I were reanimated? M. How rich would I be if I were reanimated? N. What are religious & legal attitudes toward cryonics? O. Who are cryonauts? P. How much does cryonic preservation cost?

8:Wayward Bodies

A. What happens to bodies exposed to the environment? B. Will the "worms crawl in"? C. Do other animals eat corpses? D. How long does it take for an exposed body to turn to dust? E. Will embalming prevent decay? F. May I be buried at sea? G. How are bodies buried at sea? H. What happens to a body interred in water? I. Are bodies buried at sea eaten by fish? : J. Must a boat be used for a water burial? K. Why do dead bodies float? L. What will happen to bodies adrift in space? M. Why steal corpses for anatomical study? N. Why else were corpses stolen? O. How were corpses stolen? E How were graves protected? Q. Who were some infamous body snatchers? R. Was corpse stealing common in the United States? S.' What happened to captured graverobbers? T. When were "graverobbed" bodies not dead? U. Are corpses still stolen? V. May be buried in foreign soil? W How and why are corpses transported across international borders? X. How are bodies or ashes transported into the United States? Y. How are bodies or ashes transported by air? Z. Are there problems transporting bodies or ashes across state lines? AA. Will I be an archaeological find?

9: Nightmares

A. What is cannibalism? B. When has cannibalism provided a necessary source of food? C. How was cannibalism used to acquire powers and satisfy gods? D. What kind of rituals honored dead relatives or enemies? E. How was cannibalism used for revenge? E Has cannibalism been practiced recently? G. Why hunt or shrink heads? H. Why shrink bodies? I. How is a shrunken head prepared? J. What is stripping the flesh? K. When else have animals been used to devour the dead? L. Why is a body systematically dismembered after death? M. What else was done with criminals' bodies? , N. How else are body parts used? O. What is necrophilia? P What is necrophobia? Q. Have people been sacrificed to serve the dead? R. How were corpses supposed to help or harm the living? S. What other unusual uses are there for dead bodies?

10: Going Out in Style

A. How are the dead used in ceremonies? B. What is necromancy? C. What is awake? D. What is a viewing? E. Who gets to "lie in state?" F. Who gets a parade? G. What happens to corpses of famous religious figures? H. What happens to corpses of monarchs and presidents? I. What happens to corpses of other famous people? J. How have corpses served as political symbols?

11: Black Tie Affairs

A. Why have a funeral? B. How do various religions' funerals differ? C. How do various cultures' funerals differ? D. Can someone have a custom funeral? E. What do corpses wear? E What is funeral music? G. What are funerals like in times of crisis? H. What happens to bodies on the battlefield? I. What is a coffin? J. What is a casket? K. How do I purchase a casket? L. Do caskets prevent body decay? M. Can coffins be reused? N. In what other types of containers are bodies buried? O. Should I have an open- or closed-casket funeral? P. What is proper funeral etiquette? Q. Can I have a funeral if I will be cremated or frozen or if my body was lost? R. What is a memorial service? S. What is direct burial or cremation? T. What do funerals cost? U. What regulations govern funeral operations and costs? V: How do I pay for a funeral? W How are preneed funerals marketed? X, How

could preneed plans be improved? Y. How does the body get to the burial site? Z. How can I obtain additional information about funerals?

12. From Earth to Earth

A. Why bury a body? B. What choices are there for burial? C. What are potter's fields? D. When are bodies buried in mass graves? E. Why bury corpses with a specific orientation to the earth? F. Can I be buried if I was cremated? G. Can only part of me be buried? H. How much do burials cost? I. Why not bury a body? J. Why "unbury" a body? K. When are famous corpses exhumed? L. What is a cemetery? M. What is a memorial park? N. Who may use veterans cemeteries? O. How are cemeteries planned? P. How do I buy a cemetery lot? Q. What is a gravedigger's job? R. How permanent are individual graves? S. How permanent are cemeteries? T. What are grave liners, lawn crypts, and burial vaults? U. How were early graves marked? V. What types of grave markers are available today? W. What is an epitaph? X. U.S. veterans get free gravemarkers? Y. What are catacombs? Z. What is a mausoleum? AA. What are the differences among tombs, sepulchers, crypts, & sarcophagi? AB. What laws & religious restrictions govern burial in cemeteries. AC. What is a memorial society?

13: A Hand from the Grave

A. What will my disposal do to the environment? B. How can my body best be preserved? C. Who owns my body after death? , D. Can a corpse be held for nonpayment of debts? E. Do I have a choice about what happens to me after death? E What are advance directives and can they include after-death instructions? G. Body-Disposal Instructions and Discussion Guide. H. Costing it out: average cost of postmortem activities.

14: Say It Gently: Words, Sayings, & Poetry about the Dead

Appendices

A. Twenty-Second World Medical Assembly. B. Ad Hoc Committee of Harvard Medical School to Examine the Definition of Brain Death, 1968 C. Uniform Determination of Death Act. D. Universal Determination of Death Statute (Proposed) E. Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (U.S.) E Embalmers Classification: Types of Corpses. G. The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations for the Return of Remains to the U.S. H Federal Trade Commission's "Funeral Rule," 16 C.F.R. §453 I. Selected Independent Funeral Homes Code of Good Funeral Practice. Glossary. Index.