

# CREMATION CEREMONIES

Know Your Options When It Comes to Choosing Cremation



Trying to decide if cremation is right for you & your family? It's important to understand what cremation is & your ceremony options.

## WHAT IS CREMATION?

Cremation is the process of reducing a body at very high temperatures to its basic elements and bone fragments. These are then processed into cremains (what are commonly referred to as ashes). After the cremation process, cremains are returned to the family in a temporary urn.

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People often think that cremation is a substitution for a funeral or memorial service. This is not the case! Cremation is simply a method of preparing remains for final disposition that gives you more flexibility when planning a service.

1

## TRADITIONAL CREMATION CEREMONY

Funeral ceremony prior to cremation

Choosing cremation doesn't mean that a traditional funeral service where the body is present is no longer an option. You can still choose to have a viewing followed by a religious or personal ceremony. This just takes place **before** the cremation process.



Viewing

Viewing takes place with casket prior to the funeral service



Ceremony

Religious or personal funeral ceremony is held



Cremation

Body is cremated & cremains are returned to family

2

## CEREMONIAL CREMATION

With ceremonial cremation, you may choose to have a memorial service or celebration of life ceremony **at the time** of cremation or **after** the cremation (with the option of having the urn present). In this type of ceremony, the body is not present.

Memorial service takes place at the time of cremation or following cremation



No Viewing

Body is not present at memorial service



Cremation

Body is cremated & cremains are returned to family



Ceremony

Religious or personal memorial ceremony is held

3

## NON-CEREMONIAL CREMATION

Cremation takes place in absence of ceremony

You may also choose to not have a ceremony before or after cremation. In non-ceremonial cremation, the deceased is cremated and cremains are returned to family. The family may then choose what they want to do with the cremains.



No Viewing

No viewing takes place



No Ceremony

No ceremony takes place



Cremation Performed

Body is cremated & cremains are returned to family

## CREMATION MEMORIALS OPTIONS



**In-Ground Burial:** Bury Cremains in Ground & Mark With a Headstone



**Permanent Memorial:** Interment of Cremains in a Permanent Memorial



**Urn:** Store Cremains in an Urn (Can Be Kept At Home)

## CREMATION MEMORIAL TRENDS ON THE RISE



**Scattering Ashes:** Scatter Cremains In a Place That Was Special Your Loved One & Family (Often Accompanied by Celebratory Ceremony)



**Cremation Jewelry:** Transform a Portion of Your Loved One's Ashes into Diamonds to Set Into Cremation Jewelry

Sources:

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