

## Horsea

Nice to see that truly green burials are being promoted. Thanks. It's always struck me as the best way to dispose of the dead body. As far as I know, these burials are usually done away from cities at the edge of forests, but maybe not always. Not sure. Anyway, this is what I want for myself.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Pedromar

Hi Horsea. In Spain already exist green cemeteries, where the option is ecological, without coffins, or fluids to embalm so that everything decomposes and place a tree in the place, by the idea, that a life from place to another life. The farewells are often made in a forest with wild flowers on a corpse covered with a shroud or with the loved one wrapped in the favorite blanket of his childhood. It is called "The Forest of Souls". The one of the gerundian municipality of Ox, is the first totally ecological cemetery opened in Spain and baptized like Valley of the Silence. There you can also bury the ashes at the foot of a tree.

In this way, the green cemeteries allow the resorption of the body in the flora, trees and natural shrubs, allowing to renew the life cycle in a natural way, People become part of a forest, a natural landscape that gives life to plants, trees, insects and animals.

"Green burials" like the Rhinebeck Cemetery, in the Hudson River Valley, New York, also follow this procedure. In the United States there are about 125 cemeteries that offer the option of a green burial, according to Suzanne Kelly, president of the Rhinebeck Cemetery Commission and author of "Greening Death". Many of them, such as this Rhinebeck, 128 kilometers from New York City, reserve spaces for natural burials

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Guillermou

Hi Horsea. In Spain there are already green cemeteries, where the option is ecological, without coffins, or fluids to embalm so that everything breaks down and place a tree in the place, for the idea, that a life from place to another life. The farewells are often made in a forest with wild flowers on a corpse covered with a shroud or with the loved one wrapped in the favorite blanket of his childhood. It is called "The Forest of Souls". The one of the gerundian municipality of Ox, is the first totally ecological cemetery opened in Spain and baptized like "Valley of the Silence". There you can also bury the ashes at the foot of a tree. In this way, the green cemeteries allow the resorption of the body in the flora, trees and natural shrubs, allowing to renew the life cycle in a natural way, People become part of a forest, a natural landscape that gives life to plants, trees, insects and animals.

"Green burials" like the Rhinebeck Cemetery, in Hudson River Valley, New York, also have a great natural environment. In the United States there are about 125 cemeteries that offer the option of a green burial, according to Suzanne Kelly, president of the Rhinebeck Cemetery Commission and author of "Greening Death." Many of them, like this Rhinebeck, 128 kilometers from the city of New York, reserve spaces for natural burials

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Horsea

@Guillermou. Many thanks for your information. I am so glad that this is catching on, though maybe not as fast as some of us would like.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Brazil123

Has anyone considered taking the dead body out to sea? There are plenty of critters in the ocean who would love to feast on a cadaver. That would be my preference.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **pisces**

@Brasil123 - I had asked that same question 40 years ago and was told by a friend (also a mortician) that burials at sea were done without formaldehyde in very thin non-protected steel coffins with numerous holes in them for the critters to get in and out. That was 40 years ago and I haven't looked into it since.

Naturally, offshore, there was an assigned area for such happenings that restricted commercial fishing ..... or so I was informed. Wouldn't want grandma's coffin coming up in a trawl net before the whole process was over.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Maurya**

People bury their loved ones at sea around here all the time. Just go out far enough that nobody sees your boat. Essential to put some stones or other weighted objects in with the body.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **ddim116600**

"Ashes to ashes....." Wrap in a shroud, place in the earth, let nature do its work.... a Great recipe !

Posted On 05/06/2018

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## Guillermou

Even in death, the highest returns are sought, even if it is to the detriment of the health of the people who continue to live and the degradation of the ecosystem. We can bury, if we have that possibility, our pet or a loved one in our garden, under a tree, and Aquamation offers an ecological alternative. Alkaline hydrolysis is a reducing process where bodies are slowly reduced to their organic elements and chemicals such as cytotoxic drugs and viruses are broken down into non-toxic basic elements. Alkaline hydrolysis was instrumental in the eradication of mad cow disease in Great Britain for this very reason, after it was found to be the only effective method in the eradication of the deadly prions, or deformed proteins, that cause the illness.

Aquamation leaves ash residues similar to clean fine sand and does not contain black carbonized ash, residue from incineration, nor produce volalactic toxics as indicated by Dr. Mercola. This clean sand is more suitable to have precious memories of the beloved person or your pet. It is also possible thanks to the carbon that remains in the ashes, convert it into graphite, which is then heated at high temperature and pressed in machines, obtaining a diamond, where the color of the jewel can vary from white to a deep blue, depending on the amount of boron. The drawback of the memory in the form of a diamond is the price.

The alkaline hydrolysis, is part of the natural process of dissolution of a body and also the way in which humans extract nutrients from food in our small intestine. It is the preferred method of many of the largest and most prestigious medical and educational centers in the world, for bodies donated to science. In the Mayo Clinic each year approximately one hundred bodies used in their research are eliminated by this method. We must conserve the environment and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, for the consolidation of a sound environmental policy that also prevents climate change.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Krofter

Had a friend who knew she was very near the end. She decided to use her last bit of strength to walk as far as possible into a wilderness area just north of Tucson, an area known to be bristling with predators like mountain lions, jaguarundi, bobcats, ocelots and coyotes. She climbed so far in that she had no strength left to return. It was several years before a few bits of her remains were found scattered far and wide. As with 99% of the other creatures on this planet, at the end she had truly become one with nature.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Guillermou

Hi Krofter, I'm happy to see you again, although narrating the story of your friend's death, from a sad perspective, but an encounter with nature. It is the law of life that animals serve a trophic chain, and man can dispose of them to feed himself. We can establish a relationship of coexistence with nature in prehistory where men did not begin to eat meat on a whim, because there is a clear relationship between the expansion of the human brain and a greater consumption of foods of animal origin. Man developed to be omnivorous, as it is an evolutionary advantage in the face of changes in climate and territories. Omnivores can cover a large part of the trophic chain and this allows us to live in different ecosystems.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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Dear Dr. Mercola,

I am not sure if you are Jewish, although I have heard you are. Even if you are not, this is still very important for you to know, as you affect many people through your writings, etc.

The Torah is our guidebook and it instructs us not just about caring for the body, but also for the soul, which is eternal. We want our souls to have "eternal rest" meaning ever-lasting peace, and more, bliss. [ Yes, the world was "created" (by someone!) and there are things that "work" (bring us toward our goals - e.g. happiness, peace, doing the "right" thing) and things that don't. We must look for real answers, and not just what fits into current eco-philosophy.]

One crucial step is burial. For the soul to have rest, the body must be buried according to Jewish tradition (at least, a Jewish person must be buried this way, and all people also need to be buried in a similar although not identical way, for their soul's peace) - which involves a pretty typical burial, in the dirt, deep in the ground, without fancy padded coffins, metal, embalming etc...just a simple burial in a plain wood box or wrapped in a tallis, and special simple burial clothes. From dirt we come and unto dirt we go, so our souls can be free and our body purified for the next stage. Burning the body in various ways - chemical, fire, and grinding, are very painful for our souls after they part from our body. (Consult an orthodox rabbi for more details on proper burial.) Please, use your influence to teach people about this and keep Jews at least - everyone, really, away from cremation, and even this new green cremation, which too is painful for the soul and even to the earth, which is the body's home.

Thank for considering my words, and hopefully doing your own research. May everyone find the ultimate peace, joy, bliss and truth. You are important and worth the best, not just fading away, alone, in a forest, torn apart by wild animals, or burned and ground up..Check it out yourselves!

Posted On 04/29/2018

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## **otis101**

Having recently been diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer on my nose I thought my end was near. But mohs surgery at UCSF showed clear margins and a separate lab test showed no invasive cancer. On a cancer stage score of 1 to 4 I was told I was stage "0". Was it the 2 month strict ketogenic diet that made the cancer disappear? So with all of that great news I have decided to live forever and starve the undertakers and their lot.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **njlady**

Way to go Otis!...that's great news

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Guillermou**

Hi OTIS, long life, health..... and good food

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **giles22**

Awesome

Posted On 04/28/2018

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Fantastic! I'm very happy for you:)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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### [one\\_song](#)

God bless and keep you well and strong Otis. Lost my beloved husband of 42 years (who was always healthy as a horse) two years ago. He had heartburn and we made the mistake of seeking medical attention. Two endoscopies later, were told "all clear", no cancer, and we did a happy dance. Less than a week later he developed a swollen lymph node under his right jawline. 12 hours later it was the size of a golfball and he sought medical care. An antibiotic and a remark by the walk in clinic Doc that 'he should probably have a CT scan but we wont be doing it today'. 24 hours later he looked like someone with a massive goiter.

ER and ENT decided to aspirate and told us he had metastatic squamous cell head and neck cancer. Pushed rapidly through a major teaching hospitals oncology dept. he decided to have both tonsils removed. Five days later, after 3 additional endoscopies at bedside after bleeds, he bled to death in my arms.

The story is longer and much more went 'wrong' during his hospital stay, but this suffices to say what befell him under the 'BEST' of hospital care. I tell you this not to frighten you, but to suggest the ketogenic diet be continued. May you live long and prosper, may your health improve by leaps and bounds.

Posted On 04/29/2018

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### [otis101](#)

Thanks a bunch for all of your comments.

Posted On 04/30/2018

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## gsaaduddin

Unfortunately, you have not done all the research to discuss this properly. My Dad died (murdered by a post acute facility) recently and we personally went through this research ourselves. It turns out the technique of choice in S. CA is alkaline hydrolysis. It reduces the body to a few bone fragments which are then ground, and amino acids (like bodybuilders and gym rats take in supplement form). If you have ever prepared these aminos (protein precursors) and let the solution sit for days, the decomposition smell is a strange recognizable stench. They have been spraying this alongside the freeways, stinking us out, but following up the next day with a spraying of eucalyptol to hide the stench. Most of this sludge is flushed down the drain, and since we all have "toilet to tap" water in S CA we get to drink these dead bodies.

There is some discussion whether we are protected from heavy metals, nanoparticles and viral load. The water certainly behaves as if it contains organic matter, because one's toilet bowl will get black mold in only 3 days, and if water is kept in a bucket, it will quickly stink too. The amount of chlorination has been increased greatly as well. However, it fits nicely into the eugenics protocol with the intentional increase in deaths to reduce population. What amazes me is, the medical community knows this is going on and just turns their heads. Of course they are wealthy, with full house filtration systems to prevent them from bathing in or drinking their loved ones. I find this is a method to hide the enormous number of bodies being murdered by nursing homes and pseudo hospice organizations using the Liverpool Care Pathway and benefiting from the different manipulations of the Shared Savings Program by both hospitals and doctors.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## orgorg

My good friend had a green burial. He died as expected, in the early morning hours. The next day he was buried in the woods, in a green cemetery, where people could be buried near there pets. The casket was a piece of plywood on the bottom and stiff cardboard on the top and sides that looked like wood.

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## **caws**

My husband was building a house for a guy who ran a green cemetery in Georgia. Similar deal . I think the cheapest price was about \$6000. Check out the book Stiff by Mary Roach. It is a darkly funny account of the different uses of bodies donated for "research" some of which are pretty gross. This is why if you donate a body you might want to make sure it is for your preferred purpose [tissue bank or medical students] and not crash test dummy or above ground decomposition field for crime study. etc.

I have also rethought organ donation after learning that "brain death" is a "modern" term to define death. Previously the heart would stop beating and the brain would die several minutes later. The process of keeping the heart beating on a brain dead cadaver for purposes of harvest requires fluids administered and artificial respiration to keep organs fresh. Anesthesia is of course is not used to remove organs but tears/twitching have been observed coming from body. Is pain felt? Do they allow the elderly to die quicker if they have viable organs? Do they always get permission? Do they ever check to see if the person has latent Epstein Barr,Cytomegala virus, herpes 6, or tick diseases like Babesia or Lyme? This pretty much guarantees transplant failure. 20% of donor blood samples privately tested were contaminated with Babesia/lyme but no one is mandating this for the public. It is also a fact that many mortuaries will harvest body parts for medical schools to make extra money [closed casket & cremations] without telling the families.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **katndognco**

I would love to be buried near my pets great idea. Thanks for sharing!

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**njlady**

to lighten the subject..."just let me go naturally"

[www.youtube.com/watch](http://www.youtube.com/watch)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Guillermou**

Remember Me: To the living, I am gone. To the sorrowful, I will never return. To the angry, I was cheated, But to the happy, I am at peace, And to the faithful, I have never left. I cannot be seen, but I can be heard. So as you stand upon a shore, gazing at a beautiful sea - remember me. As you look in awe at a mighty forest and its grand majesty - remember me. As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity - remember me. Remember me in your heart, your thoughts, your memories of the times we loved, the times we cried, the times we fought, the times we laughed. For if you always think of me, I will never be gone. - Margaret Mead

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**njlady**

Lovely Gui...and so very true...

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Luvvvy

What a great song and poem! I laughed, I cried. Thank you both!! The lyrics are clever .. "Swear there ain't no heaven and pray there ain't no hell, .. But I'll never know by living, only my dying will tell," And the poem is.. very moving. This topic is on my radar right now. Living and dying naturally, feels right to me. Blessings.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## M.H.Deal

An amusing piece. If throughout history everyone had been cinderized, we'd know little or nothing about our ancestors' diets or customs. Before the advent of agriculture 10,000 years or so ago, skeletons were taller than today. Good thing Richard the III wasn't cinderized because when his body was unearthed in a Leicester, UK, car park several years ago, he was found NOT to be the deformed monster promoted by "Shakespeare". Of course, this depiction "settled" a family feud between competitors in the War of the Roses. The skull is the last human part to decompose, if ever, so much can be learned from its teeth. See Peter Unger's Evolution's Bite. Amusing, but if fully realized, really the end of history.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## lyd4625

do a video on the foolishness of 'debt' weddings

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## caws

Funerals here in SC are big business. Folks living in trailers are dropping 20K on lavish deals where they go into debt for years. Crazy.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **katndognco**

I saw a video a couple yrs ago about a couple who passed on the expensive wedding and requested that friends and family not spend money on gifts, wedding attire or travel, hotel, etc, but instead to calculate the supposed amount they would have spent and contribute towards to a down payment account they set up to purchase a home. I thought it was brilliant!

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Bilby**

I want my corpse turned into blood & bone fertilizer and used to grow vegetables.. George Carlin once said that cemeteries and golf courses are a waste of land.

Posted On 04/27/2018

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## **ttn7292**

Then a burial in a communal grave must be the greenest of all. Another thought- it all depends on someone's life style they had before (s)he passes away. A clean eating /drinking, no medication taken creates a clean body, which decomposes itself very nicely. With modern life style our bodies are full of toxic chemicals, meaning even in afterlife we continue to poison the planet.

Posted On 04/27/2018

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## Almond

There is something creepy about this since the \*\*\* used human ash from the crematoriums to grow the large cabbages in prison camp gardens that they so much enjoyed. I would have to think about this a while longer. What about the energetics left behind in the ash? That is the way some remedies are prepared by converting the sediment to ash. Would that be a bit like cannibalism? I suppose it is safe enough from a microbial standpoint, but I am not sure we see the whole picture.

I have nothing against greener burials. Much good could come of it. I wish so much knowledge of using essential oils for embalming had not been lost. Also, how many people are aware of what the laws in their state allow? I think there would be more of a sense of completion if burials were once again held where the family washed and prepared the body. It seems a final act of respect and kindness compared to what happens in a chemical embalming process in a mortuary.

I don't plan to hang around and come back if the funeral is not to my liking. I think many people make too much of planning their funerals, right down the choosing the color of the satin sheets, flowers and their own caskets. This is fine if they are trying to make it easy for their family, but I think many people are obsessed with being the center of attention, even in death.

Actually, there are many ways to have a memorial service. It does not even need to be done soon after an individual passes--grief is not a timely process. You don't even need a clergy person. My thoughts is that it would be nice to pay for a trip for the person closest to you to deposit your remains in a sacred wilderness location... to go in on horseback along with any who choose to be present. Leave with the memory and video it for others. My husband and I will have our remains combined and only one trip. I think fancy funerals are a waste of money, but to each his own. -continued-

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Almond**

-continued- I hesitate to have a gravesite with an expensive marker for someone to maintain until the money runs out. Much better to scatter my remains and plant some wild flowers. Might as well speed up the "dust-to-dust" process. I see wisdom in not having people grieving over my grave several times a year, if that, and being tied to the past. Death is final and I would prefer that they get on with living their lives. Funerals are for the living and do nothing to serve those who have passed. The time to pay your respects is when people are still alive.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **caws**

Bury me in the compost pile so I will amount to a hill of beans!

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **grulla**

"caws" please don't take this the wrong way, but I'll bet your horse could contribute well to that compost pile, as ours have in the past, to our squash garden. :-)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## dectiri

Whatever happened to that online funding proposal??? to build -- in oregon iirc -- a silo-shaped building with a spiral path around the perimeter for the grieving family to wheel their deceased, all naturally wrapped and cleaned up and cared for, in a bed of straw to be deposited in a composting process slot, suitable service to the beliefs involved... and x months later to retrieve the remains -- straw and all turned to compost for the family garden/landscape use..... ?? the funding seemed to be getting to the target..

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## scottevani

When I lived in a more rural area of Brazil, burials happened within 24-30 hours. The casket would be open and flowers would be tucked in all around the person which was a nice fragrance. People would sit around the room mourning, talking, sharing, hugging, etc. Other people would bring food. Course those areas didn't have the fancy funeral homes. At first I thought how terrible to bury so quickly. Now I think, it's actually a better way. One doesn't have to sit around grieving for 3-5 days--it's done and over, the life is celebrated and then a different kind of mourning/grieving can begin. If people have to travel long distance, they can go to the cemetery. I just don't care for the funeral home ambient where it is so quite, reverent, unsocial, plus they use the emotional situation of the family to add even more cost.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **caws**

Pollution, waste of resources, and expense of funerals, burials & cremation are all very concerning; although I understand that in Europe they remove amalgams before cremation. I read about a bare stone mountain in Ireland or Scotland where it was tradition for folks to hike up and spread the ashes of their loved ones. After decades of doing this the mountain is now covered in grass & trees because of all the nutrients deposited.

I plan to "cheat the undertaker" because it is a waste of money and because I believe in recycling everything I will donate to a medical school . I was going to use a tissue bank [they will even pay for pick up & transport] but was a little disturbed by the obscene profits & sometimes unethical distribution of contaminated product at SOME facilities. Both places provide needed services though and pay for cremation or hydrolysis of remains that are returned to the family. A memorial service at our small church or family home at later date when all can assemble is preferred. This courtesy was not extended to me when either of my parents passed & I was just out of hospital & 1000 miles away. I like Almond's idea of husband & wife's ashes spread at same time by the family. I prefer that it be from a ship off the coast of Cape Cod where I grew up.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Guillermou**

In Sweden, a company uses for an ecological burial the method is called Promation and it is easy to understand and accept. It is based on a new combination of tried and tested techniques that prepare the corpse for a natural decomposition process. The procedure is defensible in ethical, moral, environmental, technical terms, and does not subject the body to violent or destructive manipulation

The method freezes the corpses at 18° C below zero, immerses them in liquid nitrogen and, by means of a vibration, converts them into a powder that, once dried, can be spread over the land and used as fertilizer for plants.

<https://youtu.be/4HD5Gt80H6s>

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**mar9711**

always wonder about the mercury from fillings in cremations and burials....

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**juliemurray**

This is so very important that the horrific processes that we have become accustomed to in the last 150 years be replaced by something more respectful of the Earth. But when you write: " while the liquid broth left behind – a neutralized mixture of amino acids, peptides, sugars and salts – can either be repurposed into fertilizer or safely discarded." how in the world is this liquid being safely discarded? The first step is for those of us who care deeply about this work to change the current legislation to allow truly "green burials".

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**CaddyB**

No mention of another reason for embalming: to be sure the person is actually dead. I remember reading of cases where a person was in a deep coma and for all intents and purposes appeared to be dead. Once buried they suffered the horrible realization of where they were when they came to. I like the idea of a natural decaying of the body that will then perhaps nourish a tree. At this point, in my state of Delaware, cremation seems to be the best alternative for this.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## dpm39560

I have heard that back in 18th and 19th century England, not being certain a person was truly dead before burial became a horrifying possibility. When authorities had cause to exhume some bodies, they found several caskets with claw marks inside the lids, showing the victims had indeed been buried alive. Because of this, they went through a time when they would bury a person with a string tied to their hand, and that string being connected to a bell on the surface. A person was then employed to sit and listen for that bell for the first day or two after burial. This practice is what gave rise to the term, "dead ringer." Truth or urban legend? I don't know, but it's a fun to know story.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## grulla

"...in my state of Delaware, cremation seems to be the best alternative for this." I guess there is no more room for cemeteries in tiny Delaware. I wonder if Rhode Island has the same situation. :-) My paternal family was buried in NJ, and at that time they had enough room to squeeze them in. Perhaps those small, east coast states have the option for burial at sea, (minus the amalgam fillings), with the outgoing riptides.. :-) I have to maintain a sense of humor in this otherwise unpleasant subject. But then again, there are many other unpleasant Mercola articles, such as what Monsanto and the corrupt FDA government are up to. :-)

@"dpm", "...and that string being connected to a bell on the surface. A person was then employed to sit and listen for that bell for the first day or two after burial." That begs the question if fire extinguishers are given to corpses in crematories???) :-)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## CaddyB

Ah, yes dpm..."saved by the bell."

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Guillermou

Catalepsy, also called Apparent Death, is a disorder of the nervous system that can be very dangerous, because it is characterized by immobility, paleness, and muscular rigidity, loss of speech, as well as a reduced or no painful sensitivity, giving the impression that He is dead, with almost imperceptible pulse and breathing. Catalepsy can be a symptom of other disorders such as Parkinson's, epilepsy, schizophrenia, sleep apnea, emotional shock, etc. Catalepsy can last for days and weeks and even years. Fortunately, today we are quite aware that this can happen, but formerly, those who suffered it on many occasions, cataleptic patients were buried alive by mistake

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## CaddyB

Grulla, there's room; I just don't want to add my polluted self to the pile. ;-)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## grulla

Same here "Caddy", and there is plenty room in NM, but too many cemeteries none-the-less. They can scatter my ashes on the mountains, and there is plenty of that here from forest fires. :-)

[www.emnrd.state.nm.us/.../maps.html](http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/.../maps.html)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **alexsemen**

The next step in death technology it is for sure the USA,France UK Army and Politics advanced industry to bomb people, nations, countries into oblivion to kindly force to them "freedom"to be dead and "democracy "to be robbed to death ! Once and for all think about the economy of means to don't let those millions people not to consume for another 30-50 years . That's real ecology !

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Julianne**

Not sure what you are trying to say with your convoluted word salad!

Posted On 04/30/2018

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## **Dordee**

Thank you for this, I had been thinking cremation since I have no family left. The natural burial is the best and suits my thinking. There is less cost for my friend who is in charge of everything and more left to see that my cats are sent to a safe, no kill sanctuary. This article will be included with my instructions for mydeath.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **badboy2**

No embalming for me. I want to be ready in case there will be a Michael Jackson Video #2 .....Thriller!!.)  
[www.youtube.com/watch](http://www.youtube.com/watch)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## badboy2

A person can opt out of embalming at many cemetery's across the country

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## lovethissite

I loved this video and its especially relevant as I am taking a Social Gerontology course at the local college. We might talk about death and dying, but who talks about the outrageously expensive emotional decision of burial cost and practice? P.S. Couldn't access the YouTube site separately to forward the video to my professor without GOOGLE wanting to know what I was accessing (since Google owns YouTube). That's just creepy...like the recently posted video "Look into the Light, My Pretties" on Mercola says, NOTHING is private, and we are willing to give up our "freedoms" for something that is free. ;o(

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## 19beets

Returning to Earth sounds ideal, very Wordsworthian. I could never understand those who want to be violently cremated then their ashes tossed hither and thither. My parents died when I was very young and buried in a specific place. I know where they are. That makes me feel physically close to them when I visit.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Guillermou

.... and they are in our memory I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love. ~Leo Buscaglia

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## 19beets

Guillermo, A beautiful sentiment. Thank you for sharing that.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Epona777

You have to check into your local laws. Some states won't let you bury somebody unless they've been either cremated or embalmed. My Dad did research on this when my Grandmother died. We were able to give her a relatively "green" burial here. She had a simple pine coffin and was not embalmed and they dug the hole in the ground with a backhoe. She was put in a lovely cemetery on the top of a hill with a lovely view. BUT not all states/local cemeteries will allow this.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## dpm39560

It seems we all have a series of choices. First, face this issue or ignore it. If we ignore it, then the people we leave behind when we die will have to face the issue. If we face it, then we need to decide, do we want our mortal remains to harm the environment or be beneficial to it? If we don't care about harming the environment when we're not here to see it, then we can simply say we want to be buried or cremated. But if we want our mortal remains to benefit the environment, then we need to take steps to ensure we have a green burial or other environmentally friendly process done. I have already emailed my state representative to light a spark for new legislation authorizing green burials, cemeteries, and other burial sites in our state. What will you do?

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## grulla

"Alkaline Hydrolysis: The Next Step in Death Technology?" In a past episode of TV's "The Black List", Raymond Reddington pursues a contract killer who dissolves his victims' bodies in a tub of some kind of corrosive liquid...alive!!!...then flushes the evidence down the drain. I had no idea that was another option for the deceased, like cremation. I thought it was something the Hollywood writers had concocted for the TV show...who knew. :-O

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## njlady

Hey grulla after reading your posts today I must say you are in rare form,,,lol...thanks for the morning smiles :0)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## Guillermou

Hi Grulla, you who like inventions, this may be of your interest. In Norway, the regulations aimed to make the practice of burying a corpse more hygienic. The reason is a law that was approved shortly after the Second World War that forced the bodies to be buried in plastic. But what it has achieved is that the bodies do not disappear by the action of Mother Nature, but keep in fairly good condition. The practice is no longer used, but now Norway has some 350,000 places in cemeteries that can not be reused, and the authorities are not willing to give more land to expand these places.

The solution has come from the hands of a former funeral worker named Kjell Larsen Ostbye and is the extract of Lima. Larsen has invented a technique that consists of probes that are stuck in the ground and go through the plastic by injecting a concentrate of lime juice. The acidity of the fruit accelerates the decomposition of the body and makes it disappear naturally in a period not exceeding one year. [i.kinja-img.com/gawker-media/image/upload/s--9wqljHw7--/c\\_fit,f\\_auto,f..](http://i.kinja-img.com/gawker-media/image/upload/s--9wqljHw7--/c_fit,f_auto,f..)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **grulla**

Hi "NJ", my pleasure, thanks for your thanks, LOL!

Hi "gui", Mr. Larsen is entitled to a Nobel Peace Prize, dontcha think. :-)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **healthnatural**

I got an idea. We take a few piece of bones and cremate and make into a piece pf jewelry to wear like they do in Korea, I think. The rest of the body will be sent through a deep hole dig in the ground to decompose. Or we design a big pressure cooker to cook the body and reduce the body into a broth in no time. That's how I make my bone broth :) There will be no smell and no harmful bacteria because the body is cooked. And the energy usage is minimal due to pressure cooking. I measure the energy usage of my pressure cooker and it is very minor. We can still have a burial ceremony when just a small part of the body such as a bone is kept as token and put in a nice box for viewing and praying.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **wariormom**

My first thought? SOYLENT GREEN! That old Charlton Heston movie where people were eating "recycled" old people. This is not that far off.. LOL.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **caws**

Would not surprise me in the least. There is already a protein drink product on the market called Soylent.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **Brynn**

Maybe we can join the Rapture, leave no body behind. ;) I'll take a green burial if it isn't too expensive.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **orgorg**

Spirit doesn't care about the physical body. Only humans care.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## **merlinux**

'Recompose' is a new iteration of the Urban Death project which is developing a process of accelerated composting,

which seems to me the greenest of the available options.

See <https://www.recompose.life>

Posted On 05/10/2018

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## **just\_wondering**

Please look at the TED talk regarding the "mushroom burial suit". (Google "mushroom death suit") A scientist has created a shroud composed of fungi which biodegrade the corpse naturally. The cost is glaringly lower than any current practice and the process is "planet friendly". The suit is used instead of a coffin and is how I plan to be reunited with the earth when I am no longer enduring it.

Posted On 05/06/2018

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**veronicasmom**

This is a terrific solution but I am sure that many states prevent it because then the money is not made.

Posted On 04/29/2018

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**kithall**

so now what? where do we go from here?

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**sen6891**

Glad I am Jewish. Jews do not embalm thus no Formaldehyde in Jewish cemeteries.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**LIFEISBEAUTIFUL7**

I heard of this on the TV before. I like this idea very much. I like to do this when it's my time. Thank you Guillerrou for the info. That's sounds pleasant and beautiful. I will definitely look into it. 😊

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## healthnatural

The embalming is mainly for the viewing of the dead before burial. Even if it is close casket, the body will start to decompose and smell without embalming. Then we have to bury the dead right after death. An alternative to aqua cremation is to send the body through conveyor belt to a deep hole dig in the ground. Or we just compromise... We only die once and if we pollute the earth one last time at death but don't pollute the earth in life then it will have a minor impact on the environment, If we continue to eat GMO crop and pollute the earth for 80-100 years however long we live, a green burial has the impact of a grain of salt in an ocean. Thanks to this article, now I am aware of not buying a house next to a cemetery or a crematorium.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## blessed soul

I am so glad there is a discussion on this topic. I always wondered with so many joint replacements-hip, knee, shoulder in addition to dental fillings. How does it recycle with significant human waste to consider in case of green burial, cremation, natural decomposition? Thanks

Posted On 04/28/2018

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## bon4674

Jewish funeral customs are green. VERY green - NO embalming, wrapped in a shroud, buried in a simple pine (wooden) box. That's the actual ritual. If Jews are not observant, they may use different caskets, but other than the laws that call for the removal of blood - no chemicals are involved and burial is usually within a day or so of death. Forward thinkers by Divine design.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**tomina.t**

[en.wikipedia.org/.../Sky\\_burial](https://en.wikipedia.org/.../Sky_burial)

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**herbnut**

My brother (WWII Vet) passed away a few years ago. He was against going to Dr.'s - and insisted when it was his time - that was it. He also insisted that No Embalming be used, place me in a Pine Box - no expense. His kids were against this.....no embalming ...but they spent a bundle on a Coffin to be buried at a Military Cemetery. Surely he would be disappointed in their extravagance that they really couldn't afford. We had long talks about this---I'm all for the Green Burial. Thanks for this info - I'd never heard of it before.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**suz6556**

I looked into this locally and was very happy and excited to have the option locally to do this till I started adding up all the costs. I do not have much money and it would cost me over 6x as much as cremation. I do not feel that is a gift to my children. Sadly, I will probably opt for cremation. I wish they could do it with a big magnifying glass and solar power like they show kids doing to ants.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**rebeccaj51**

Thank you for the well-researched content of this article. I've read of green cemeteries, but I'd never heard of water cremation.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**avrenj**

So People of the Jewish faith had it right all along: buries their dead within 24 hours, wrapped in a cotton shroud, in a simple pine wooden box (no viewing) without any chemicals just the way we come into the world. Maybe we should pay more attention to how the Bible tells us to live a happy and healthy life and how it should end than commercializing burials.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**jsmccord7**

I remember working in Chicago by the lakefront for several months. We stopped at the cafe in the area and always noticed a flatbed truck hauling dug up cement caskets from cemeteries somewhere every morning, headed for the lakefront. Then we would see the truck on return route with an empty flatbed. We wondered where the heck those burials were getting disposed of...or were they dumping them into lake Michigan.....hmmm...

Posted On 04/28/2018

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**luc22248**

My first thought was the line out of the movie, "Soylent green -- it's people!"

While there's a logic to everything written here, there's just something wrong with disintegrating people and using them as fertilizer for food other people eat.

Posted On 04/28/2018

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