

Three New Trends in Deathcare

By David FitzSimmons President/CEO Woodland Cemetery

Changes in funeral and burial customs happen slowly, as new ideas and practices filter through our culture, our churches and our families. Many times this leads to uncertainty and indecision at a time of loss.

We often see families vigorously debating what Mom or Dad would have wanted. That doesn't have to happen. Read these trends and have a meaningful family discussion over the holidays! It's not morbid, it's healthy!

Prearrange and Pre-Pay

Avoid guessing what others might have wanted. Make decisions and lock in prices together in a calm, cool and collected

environment ... not on the worst day of your life.

Cremation

Preferred by many Miami Valley residents, this mode of disposition results in the return of a small container of cremated remains to the family. Many times, families are puzzled by what to do with them. It is estimated that perhaps 70 percent are stored for a while and then discarded. Woodland offers several more appropriate methods of permanent memorialization such as Crypt, Niche or Ossuary entombment, earth burial in a cremation grave or cremorial, or even second burial rights on an existing grave. These are viewed as a more appropriate end to a life well lived.

Mausoleum Entombment/ Family Estates

One granite company recently noted that in 1997 it had installed 80 family mausoleums in cemeteries nationwide, but that in 2007 it had erected 980. Clearly, preference for private family mausoleum entombment is gaining popularity, primarily amongst the Boomer generation. Woodland currently has 12-, 6- and

Woodland currently has 12-, 6- and 2-crypt mausoleums available on site, and offers countless designs and many attractive ground sites for purchase.

Woodland is one of Dayton's most historic and beautiful cemeteries. It is also one of Dayton's most innovative and is active in responding to trends and offering new options, products and services. And remember, "Woodland is Forever".

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2008 | DAYTON DAILY NEWS | WWW.DAYTONDAILYNEWS.COM