

Do You Have Cremated Remains at Home?

Cremation has become an increasingly popular choice for families, offering flexibility and simplicity in honoring a loved one. Nearly one in four U.S. households now have cremated remains in their home, according to the Cremation Association of North America. That's 21.9 million families with parents, grandparents and extended family members who have not been memorialized in any permanent way.

Yet, after the funeral services are complete, many families find themselves asking an unexpected question:

What should we do with the cremated remains?

If you have cremated remains at home, you are not alone. Countless families keep an urn on a shelf, in a closet, or tucked away in a safe place with every intention of deciding on a permanent resting place later. Unfortunately, "later" often turns into years.



While keeping cremated remains at home may feel comforting at first, many families eventually discover that it can create uncertainty for future generations. As children move away, homes are sold, and family circumstances change, loved ones are left wondering who will care for the urn and preserve the memory of the person it represents.

The Importance of Permanent Memorialization

Throughout history, people have recognized the importance of providing a permanent place of remembrance for those who have died. Whether through burial, entombment, or cremation interment, a dedicated resting place serves as a lasting tribute to a life well lived.

Permanent memorialization offers:

- A dignified and respectful resting place
- A location where family and friends can visit, pray, and remember
- Preservation of a loved one's legacy for future generations
- Relief from the responsibility of storing and safeguarding remains at home
- The assurance that your loved one will always be cared for



What Happens When Cremated Remains Stay at Home?

Many families are surprised to learn how often cremated remains become forgotten over time. Urns may be passed from one family member to another, stored during a move, or left behind when estates are settled. In some cases, they can be lost due or destroyed to natural disasters like fires and floods. Future generations may not know the story of the person whose remains they inherit.

A permanent cemetery placement ensures that your loved one's memory remains protected and honored long after those who knew them personally are gone.

Giving Your Loved One a Lasting Home

If you have cremated remains at home, consider whether now may be the right time to provide a permanent resting place. Whether through a glass niche, columbarium, family estate, or cremation burial, there are meaningful options available to honor your loved one with dignity and respect.

The decision to bring cremated remains to a cemetery is not about letting go. It is about ensuring that the life, memory, and legacy of someone you love will be cared for and remembered for generations to come. For families of faith, a cemetery also offers the comfort of knowing their loved one rests in consecrated ground, surrounded by prayer and remembrance.

If you would like to learn more about permanent memorialization options, we invite you to contact our staff. We would be honored to help you find the right resting place and create a lasting tribute for your loved one.

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