

When the inevitable happens..

– have you talked about it?



Bob Hope
(1903 – 2003)

Time to Say Goodbye

Fran Lewis, Funeral Celebrant



When someone dies.....

The 6 day rule

- * Important to act quickly
- * Extended only in exceptional circumstances



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When someone dies.....

- Repatriation
- Burial
- Cremation
- Leaving body to science

Repatriation

- Considerable bureaucracy
- High cost
- Possibly long process



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Burial

- Right to be buried in home commune
- Grave concessions for 15,30 or 50 years
- Mairies right to exhume
- Green or woodland burials not available

Cremation

- Current closest crematoriums – Caen and Mayenne
- Restrictions on where ashes can be buried or scattered

Science

- Needs to be planned
- Cost if going to a hospital outside the home region



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What to do first.....

- In hospital or a nursing home
- A violent death, including car accidents

At home

- Call your doctor or emergency services, 15 or 112
- Contact a local funeral director
- Déclaration de décès at the local Mairie within 24 hours



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At the Mairie.....

When registering the death you will need to take:

- constat de décès and sealed medical certificate
- the deceased's identification
 - *birth & marriage certificates and passport*
 - *if divorced*
 - *if a widow or widower*
- your identification



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At the Mairie.....

You will be asked:

- whether you will be having a burial or cremation
- which funeral director you will be using

You will be given:

- the acte de décès (death certificate)



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At the funeral directors.....

- * Date, place & time
- * Statement of expressed wish
- * Your preference of coffin, lining, handles?
- * Should the body be embalmed?
- * What sort of ceremony you want?
- * How payment will be made



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Some other procedures and customs.....

- Organs for transplantation
 - National Register of Refusal www.dondorganes.fr
- Sealing of the coffin
- The coffin in the crematorium
- An unfortunate practice



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Finally, do remember...

**There are no second
chances when
organising a funeral**

Make sure you talk about it!



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