

Burial at Sea - Ash Scattering - is an increasingly selected option for families when saying goodbye to loved ones. Not only is it an environmental friendly alternative to traditional burial and rich in nautical tradition, it is also a much less expensive alternative. Our captains are licensed by the United States Coast Guard; we are commercially insured and licensed by the state of California as a "Cremated Remains Disposer."

Service Types and Attendance

The form the ceremony takes is completely up to the family. A clergy member or family member is often designated to perform the ceremony. The vessel Captain is also available to assist with the ceremony. Some families request the Captain to recite "Commitment to the Deep" or other verses. We can play music or you may bring your own CD. The ashes are then scattered in the selected manner.

For some ash scatterings, the family wishes to view the scattering from shore. There are several places around San Diego to choose for this. We can also scatter the ashes in the absence of the family.

Our ash scattering ceremonies may be performed at any location selected by the family; many are performed from locations off the San Diego Coast such as Ocean Beach Pier, Crystal Pier or the Cabrillo Monument on Point Loma or off of The Hotel Del. The exact GPS where the ceremony takes place and the weather conditions are recorded. This information is then used to complete the memorial certificate which will be sent to the family a few days following the ceremony.

Methods of Performing Water Ash Scattering

There are three ways to perform burial at sea (ash scattering over the water) and all are very common. The scattering method used may be selected by the family. With ash scattering some families also choose to keep a portion of the ashes in various forms as keepsake. We will also be able to assist you with this.

It is also possible to perform a burial at sea with no remains. This can be done when it is not possible to retrieve remains - in the case of a ship sinking or other disaster where nobody is found. A service can be performed as a memorial or flowers placed in the water. Although not strictly a burial at sea, it does provide the family and friends with a form of closure to aid in the grieving process.

Memorial trips to the exact location of a scattering are also available.