

## **Conversations regarding Home Funeral and Green Burial options**

With Michael Judd

March 2021, The Common Market, Frederick, MD

### **Resources ~ a working list**

**Crossings, Caring for our own at Death**, [www.crossings.net](http://www.crossings.net) a home funeral resource center offering a downloadable resource guide, very comprehensive.

**National Home Funeral Alliance** [www.homefuneralalliance.org](http://www.homefuneralalliance.org) ~ wonderful supportive group with many publications, podcasts, pdf's, etc.

**Green Burial Maryland** Good resource listing of cemeteries, funeral homes that support natural burial in Maryland and surrounding areas.  
<https://greenburialmaryland.org/resources/>

**Congressional Cemetery** in Southwest DC 202-543-0539, [www.congressionalcemetery.org](http://www.congressionalcemetery.org), the historical cemetery practices green burial awareness, maintains a wildlife preserve on the 35 acres, keeps beehives, and once each year maintains the grounds with a herd of goats instead of pesticides etc

Funeral homes that serve this cemetery include Gawlers, Stuart and Lincoln in DC

**Bestgate Cemetery Memorial Gardens** in Annapolis 410-841-6255, [www.LastingTributesFuneralCare.com](http://www.LastingTributesFuneralCare.com), offers green burial, no embalming, unfinished hardwood caskets, wicker baskets, shrouds ~ graves are hand dug and closed, Lasting Tribute Funeral Home serves this cemetery and will travel to the Frederick area to transport the deceased

Services offered range in price from \$6,195.00 to \$9,195.00

**Resthaven Memorial Gardens** Frederick MD, 301-898-7177, Bill Barnett will assist with planning for a green burial at Resthaven, shrouded body laid on the earth, with a concrete liner placed over the body to secure the foundations of the grave to reduce chances of sink holes etc.....not able to accommodate hand dug graves, may assist with death certificate, transport of body to gravesite (Clustered Spires Cemetery in Frederick is included in Resthaven's business group)

**Mount Olivet Cemetery**, Frederick, 301-662-1164, Ron Percy, director, Traditional liners, vaults and coffins required as per conversation with the office manager.

**Keeney Basford Funeral Home** Frederick, MD, 301-662-2175, Mark, services include assistance with death certificate filing, transport of body to gravesite, graveside services, lowering the body, will not be able to hold vigil or wake at the funeral home as the firm policy is for embalmed bodies only... "We work as an agent for the family, to make arrangement for their ease and to best meet their needs"

**Stauffer Funeral Home** Frederick MD, 301-663-1690, Ashley, services include burial in 36 hours for unembalmed bodies.....offers 1 hour private time for up to 10 family members just prior to burial, assistance with death certificate filing, transport of body to gravesite

**ST John's Cemetery**, Frederick, 301-662-8288, Paula Hoffman, traditional vaults and coffins/urns are required

**Hospice at FMH**, 240-566-3030, Nicole Pack, director, if the death takes place at FMH Hospice center, they will release the body to the family acting as funeral directors, given the death certificate and certificate of transport is in place, (in the last five years they have only had one instance of home burial...this is not a common choice)

**Rosedale Ice**, Dry Ice on East St, Frederick MD <http://www.usaice.com/home>.

### **Surveyors**

Robert F Gauss & Associates Inc. Land surveyors

103 E Main St  
Emmitsburg, Maryland  
[\(301\) 447-2222](tel:3014472222)

### **Books of interest:**

Undertaken with Love by Holly Stevens

Changing Landscapes by Lee Webster

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes by Caitlin Doughty

Final Rights by Lisa Carlson and Joshua Slocum

Stiff by Mary Roach

The American Way of Death by Jessica Mitford

Awake at the Bedside by Koshin Paley Ellison and Matt Weingast

Being With Dying by Joan Halifax

Grave Matters by Mark Harris

The Green Reaper, Memoirs of an Eco Mortician by Elizabeth Fouriner

The Green Burial Guidebook by Elizabeth Fouriner

Reimagining Death by Lucinda Herring and David Spangler

\*Youtube has many resources, offering guidance for all aspects of Natural Burial practices: What is Natural Burials, Dying Green, Green Burial, Home Funeral 101 body care basics, Ask a Mortician, eco death practices and more.....

\*local Death Café meetings at Hood College? Deathcafe.com and on Facebook

5 Wishes Advance Care Planning - <https://fivewishes.org/shop/order/product/five-wishes>

Mini documentary and podcast with Michael Judd –

<https://www.ecologiadesign.com/2019/09/11/wish-you-were-here-my-story-of-green-burial/>

Email from Frederick county resident:

I am writing to let you know how the burial easement process with Frederick County turned out. I took the document you shared with me, adapted it to our location and family, and removed the part which mentioned the lawyer. I got it notarized by my local bank. I then went to the main county office and got the document stamped by the treasury folks (1st floor of the main office on Market st. ). I then submitted it to the court house with a copy of the survey showing the burial area and easement. I paid a \$60 fee and the county went ahead and recorded it. A couple weeks later I got my receipt document in the mail. It was a very simple process and definitely does not require a lawyer. We are absolutely delighted to officially have our Family Campo Santo. Thank you for educating the community about this wonderful choice that we can make to care for our beloved Ancestors. I hope that more and more people will feel encouraged to embrace this opportunity.