

When a Person Dies

People are alive and healthy. They see, hear, feel things, eat, drink, move, breathe, and sleep. Sometimes people are not healthy or something happens to them. They may die. Some people die from a sickness, an accident, or when their bodies stop working. When people die, they cannot see, hear, feel things, eat, drink, or breathe any more. They do not have any life left in their body. When people die, they do not come back.

Dead



When people die, their family may have a Visitation or Wake. A Visitation is a special event where people go to say good bye to the person who has died. The Visitation or Wake maybe held at a church, temple, or funeral home. The person who died, may be lying in a special box called a casket. Sometimes the casket is open and people can see the person who died. Sometimes the casket is closed and there is picture of the dead person. It is important to remember the person is dead and their body is not working any more. They cannot see, hear, or feel anything. People will talk to the family of the person who died. They may hug them and say, "I am so sorry for your loss" or "You have my deepest sympathy." People may be sad and may cry. That is OK

Visitation



The funeral may be held on the same day or a different day than the Visitation. A funeral service is a special ceremony that honors the person who has died. It may be held at a church, temple, or funeral home. At the funeral service, people may say prayers or tell special stories about the person who died. The other people at funeral sit and listen. They are always quiet. People will be sad and may cry. After the funeral service is over, the casket is carried and put into a hearse. A hearse is a special vehicle that transports the casket to the cemetery. All other cars follow the hearse to the cemetery.

Funeral



A cemetery is a special area outside where caskets are buried. People sit behind the casket and final prayers and words are said about the person who died. Then the casket maybe lowered into the ground. Sometimes the casket is lowered into the ground after all the people have left the cemetery. After leaving the cemetery, some families go to lunch, or dinner. Some people go home. It is nice to say a final good bye to people who die and to honor them.

Cemetery

