

# Disposition Authorization

Washington State

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby declare that it is my desire, and based upon the authority of the **Revised Code of Washington 68.50.160**, I hereby direct and authorize that, upon my death, my remains be: *(initial either cremated or interred)*

**CREMATED** or  **INTERRED**

**If my desire is to be Cremated**, I may further direct that the Funeral Home or Crematory release my cremated remains in the following manner: *(initial and complete only ONE of the following four choices)*

1)  **Release** my cremated remains to the following person or persons:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
or  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

2)  **Deliver** for Inurnment:  **In a Niche** or  **In the Ground**  
*(initial choice)*  
To Place of Inurnment: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/County & State: \_\_\_\_\_

3)  **Ship** to: \_\_\_\_\_

4)  **Scatter** (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

**If my desire is to be Interred**, I may further direct that my body be interred at the following: *(initial)*

**Cemetery** or  **Mausoleum**  
Name of Place of Interment: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/County & State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Instructions to my survivors regarding disposition of my remains:** \_\_\_\_\_

I direct that all of my family and survivors shall honor this authorization. I direct that no funeral home, cemetery, cremation authority, or memorial society shall be liable for arranging or for undertaking the disposition of my remains, if done in reliance on this authorization.

Declarant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Declarant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDER WASHINGTON LAW, TO BE VALID, THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF A WITNESS:**

Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Definitions:**

**Cremated:** To have the body of a deceased individual undergo a process of extreme heat where the remains are reduced to ash and bone fragment.

**Interred:** To have a whole body buried either in the ground or entombed in a mausoleum.

**Inurnment:** Burial of cremated remains either in the ground or in a niche.

**Niche:** A space in a columbarium, mausoleum or niche wall to hold an urn of cremated remains.

**Mausoleum:** An above ground structure that can be for either whole body entombment or inurnment of cremated remains.

## **Washington State Law on Disposition Authorizations**

### ***RCW 68.50.160***

#### ***Right to control disposition of remains***

*(1) A person has the right to control the disposition of his or her own remains without the predeath or postdeath consent of another person. A valid written document expressing the decedent's wishes regarding the place or method of disposition of his or her remains, signed by the decedent in the presence of a witness, is sufficient legal authorization for the procedures to be accomplished.*

**People's Memorial Association (PMA)**

**[www.peoplesmemorial.org](http://www.peoplesmemorial.org)**