

# **PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING FINAL DISPOSITION OPTION FORM**

## **I. TIME LAPSE TO EXPECT BEFORE FINAL DISPOSITION**

As explained in the brochure on the Deeded Body Program, the length of time involved varies according to the specific nature of the study to which the donor is assigned. In most instances there is a time lapse of approximately 12 to 18 months between the arrival of the donor at the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology and the cremation and final disposition of the remains. However, the time required may be somewhat less, or on rare occasions, as much as two years.

## **II. BURIAL OPTIONS**

### **1. RETURN OF CREMAINS TO DESIGNATED RECEIVER**

For those preferring burial in their family plot, military cemetery, or other arrangements, the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology pays all costs of cremation, provides a minimum burial urn, and transportation of the cremains to the funeral home, or individual indicated on the "Final Disposition Option" form. Notification of the return of the cremains will be made by mail approximately 2 weeks prior to the actual return of the burial urn. All burial urns are returned via United States Postal Service Priority Mail Express. Once the urn has been returned to the designated receiver any further expenses will be the responsibility of the family, estate, or other responsible party.

### **2. OAKLAND CEMETERY, IOWA CITY**

If this option is chosen, the family incurs no burial expense whatsoever. The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology will pay the cost of the cremation, burial container, and all cemetery expenses. A granite stone marks the interment site and is inscribed with the following words:

The University of Iowa  
Deeded Body Program

In Memory of Those Who in Death  
Have Served the Living

Each year a memorial service is conducted in late summer for those donors who will be interred that year and is attended by several hundred friends and relatives. The person listed on the "Final Disposition Option" form will receive an invitation to the service and may notify other family members and friends who might wish to attend.

### III. TEMPORARY TRANSFER

Medical schools in the United States belong to a cooperative exchange program in which schools with a deficit of human material for their vital teaching programs can receive assistance from other schools. The College of Medicine at the University of Iowa has participated in this program for many years. The aim of the program is to maintain high standards of medical education.

The number of donors involved in such an exchange is very small since our own needs are so great. We would like all of our families to have their questions answered about this occasionally misunderstood aspect of the Deeded Body Program.

When a temporary transfer of a donor to another medical school does occur, The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology retains the responsibility for the donor at all time. There is no difference in the time involved in the study or in the final disposition of the remains, whether the donor is studied at the University of Iowa or elsewhere. The donor is conveyed with dignity in a University vehicle by our licensed staff mortician, and is accorded the same high respect throughout the transit and study, as practiced at the University of Iowa. Following the study, the donor is returned to the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, and the family's wishes for final disposition are carried out. The receiving school reimburses the University of Iowa for the expenses incurred in the preparation of the donor for study and the conveyance to them. We trust that you are aware that the University of Iowa realizes no financial gain whatsoever from either the Deeded Body Program or from such temporary transfers, which are intended strictly for the purpose of assisting medical education.

Please complete the enclosed "Final Disposition Option" form, indicating the burial preference, and return the form to us at your earliest convenience. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you return the "Final Disposition Option" form. You may notify us by letter should you change your mind after sending the form. If you have questions at any time concerning the Deeded Body Program, or if we may be of assistance to you in any way, please feel free to contact us at:

Deeded Body Program  
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology  
1-402 Bowen Science Building  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
(319) 335-7762  
deededbodyprogram@uiowa.edu

**Please note here which burial option you have selected and RETAIN THIS FORM FOR YOUR RECORDS.**

1. Return of cremains in a transfer burial urn\_\_\_\_\_
2. Burial of cremains in Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City, Iowa\_\_\_\_\_