

FUNERAL AND BURIAL RITES

I, the undersigned, ordain and direct that no autopsy or embalming be done on my body unless required by law, that without unjustified delay my body be washed, wrapped with cloth free of any ornaments and other articles, prayed for, then buried, which all should be done by Muslims in complete accordance with Islamic tenets.

- a) I hereby nominate and appoint _____ residing at _____ to execute these and other necessary provisions for my Islamic funeral and burial. In the event he/she shall be unwilling or unable to execute, I nominate and appoint _____ residing at _____ and in the event that he/she shall be unwilling or unable, I nominate and appoint the president of the local Muslim community, mosque or Islamic association/organization in the area where I die to execute these provisions of funeral and burial.
- b) In the event of legal difficulties in the execution of this Article, I direct the above-named person to seek counsel from the Islamic Society of North America, Inc., currently located in Plainfield, Indiana, USA (Tel: 317 839-8157).
- c) I ordain and direct that absolutely no non-Islamic religious service or observance shall be conducted upon my death, or on my body.
- d) I ordain and direct that no pictures, crescents and stars, decorations, crosses, flags, any symbols -Islamic or otherwise- or music be involved at any stage of the process of conducting my burial or ever be placed at the site of my grave.
- e) I ordain and direct that my body shall not be transported over any unreasonable distance from locality of my death, particularly when such transportation would necessitate embalming, unless when long distance transportation is required to reach the nearest Muslim cemetery, or any other cemetery selected by my Muslim family.
- f) I ordain and direct that my grave be dug deep into the ground in complete accordance with the specifications of Islamic practice, that it faces the direction of Qiblah (the direction of the City of Makkah in the Arabian Peninsula towards which Muslims face during prayers).
- g) I ordain and direct that my body shall be buried without a casket or any encasement that separates the wrapped body from the surrounding soil. In the event local laws require casket encasement, I ordain that such encasement be of the simplest, the most modest, and the least expensive type possible. I further ordain that the encasement be left open during burial and filled with dirt unless prohibited by law.
- h) I ordain and direct that my grave be leveled with ground or slightly mounded with no construction or permanent structure of any kind over it. The marking -if necessary- should be a simple rock or a marker, merely to indicate the presence of the grave. There should be no inscriptions, or symbols on the said marking other than name and dates of birth and death.

Finally, I ask all my relatives, friends and all others -- whether they choose to believe as I believed or not -- to honor my Constitutional Rights to these beliefs. I ask them to honor this document that I have made, and not to try to obstruct it or change it in any way. Rather, let them see that I am buried as I have asked to be buried. There is ONE original, of which I made two photo copies. I kept the original and deposited one copy with _____ and one copy with _____.

Signature: _____.

SIGNATURE AND WITNESSES

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____ of Year 20_____.

Signature: _____.

Legal Name: _____.

_____.

(Muslim Name, if different)

WITNESSES

We hereby certify that the foregoing instrument was on the date thereof, signed, published, and declared by the above signer as his/her wishes regarding his/her burial and funeral Last, in our presence, who at his/her request and in his/her presence, and in the presence of each other, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto, believing the signer at the time of the signing to be of sound mind and memory.

1. _____ of _____

2. _____ of _____

NOTARIZATION

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

On the _____ day of _____, 20__ before me, _____ personally appeared _____, _____, and _____ personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of the satisfactory evidence) to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same in their authorized capabilities and that by their signatures on the instrument that persons executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature _____.