
PRINCETON MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

44th Year

Spring 2000

No. 2

ANNUAL MEETING

A Matter of Life and Death Ethics and Managed Care

Russell McIntyre will speak at our annual meeting on the subject of "*A Matter of Life and Death: Ethics and Managed Care*".

Dr. McIntyre will explore the possible conflict between the "bottom-line" imperatives of health management organizations (HMO'S) and society's desire to offer the best possible medical care to all patients. In the effort to save money and make health care affordable, managed care makes patients and doctors conform to rules which may not be in the patients' best interests. The best available treatment may not be approved; access to the most suitable hospital or physician may not be permitted.

At least one moving example will be shown where the rules of an HMO appear to have been responsible for a patient's death.

Russell L. McIntyre, Th.D., is Professor of Biomedical Ethics and Health Law at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Dr. McIntyre is a member of the New Jersey Bioethics Commission, a permanent legislative commission of the New Jersey State Legislature. He serves on the Bioethics Task Force of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners. For ten years, Dr. McIntyre was the Editor of *Trends in Health Care, Law and Ethics*, a quarterly journal of contemporary issues in health care.

The annual meeting will be held Sunday, April 2nd at 2:30 p.m., in the Dodd's Auditorium, Robertson Hall, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University campus. The auditorium is wheelchair accessible from Washington Road.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, April 2nd at 2:30 p.m.
Woodrow Wilson School
On Princeton University Campus

In Memoriam

Warren P. Elmer, Jr.

Former Princeton Memorial Association board member Warren Elmer died this past January.

Warren was a Princeton resident for more than 50 years and one time roommate of our co-founder Peter Putnam.

Service on the board of PMA was only one of many activities in which Warren contributed to his community and to his country. He graduated from Princeton in 1942. He was class president from 1957 to 1962 and served on the class of 1942 executive committee until he died.

He received a Purple Heart for injuries during the Battle of the Bulge in WWII. He was one of the founders of Princeton University's Development Office and served on its administrative staff for 25 years. That service was interrupted when he took a position as headmaster of Saint Christopher's school in Richmond, Va., and a one-year assignment as headmaster of Saint Stephen's School in Rome. For three years he was with Lord Mountbatten's United World Colleges organization.

Warren served as president of the Nassau Club and was successful in gaining admission of women to full membership. He was the 1995 winner of the Alumni Council Award for Service to Princeton.

He was a friend to many of us, who will be missed.

Visit Our Website

www.princetonol.com/groups/pma

While you're at it, check out FAMSA's site:

www.funerals.org/famsa

to see what our national organization is up to. Learn about other societies. Find loads of consumer information.

You can download the free publication: *Funerals: A Consumer Guide* and *Caskets and Burial Vaults* from the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer line at www.ftc.gov

Are Your Wishes Obsolete?

FAMSA recommends that societies no longer store Expression of Wishes forms for its members. These belong in the hands of the next-of-kin. They emphasize this hoping that it will create healthy family discussion on the topic. They feel that the forms are most valuable in your possession rather than in our filing cabinet. You are the only one who can fill out your Expression of Wishes form. If it has been a long time since you filled one out, does it still reflect your wishes and those of your family?

PMA Board of Directors

Laurie R. Powsner (President)
Henry J. Powsner, M.D. (Vice-President)
Durinda Putnam (Secretary)
H. Louise Schaufler (Treasurer)
Kathy L. Ales, M.D.
Stephanie Craib
Robert J. Levine
Allen Porter, Esq.
Harvey Rothberg, M.D.
Rev. Nicholas Van Dyck
Karen Woodbridge
Charles H. Rose

Cooperating Funeral Directors

Enclosed with this newsletter is a list of our cooperating funeral directors, with their prices for minimum-service cremations and burials for 2000. Even if you wish to plan more than minimum service arrangements, the list may help you in your selection of a funeral director.

Books and Pamphlets Available At The Annual Meeting

The American Way of Death Revisited
by Jessica Mitford, Published 1998,
Cover Price: \$25.00 \$20
Caring for the Dead: Your Final Act of Love
by Lisa Carlson, Paperback, Published 1998,
Cover price \$29.95 \$20
*Putting Your House in Order: Information your
survivors will need when you are no longer
available. Prepared by Princeton Memorial
Association.....* \$1.50
*Survivors' Manual: Information for families
before, during and after death*
prepared by The Memorial and Funeral Society
of Greater Orlando \$3.00
A Manual of Death Education and Simple Burial
by Ernest Morgan, Cover Price \$12.95 \$6.00

Have You Something To Report?

If we have helped you or failed to help you, let us know. Please share with us your experiences with our cooperating funeral directors.

Help Save Lives

More than 50,000 people are currently awaiting organ transplants, with more than 900 of them living in New Jersey. Over 3,500 people die each year while waiting for a transplant, simply because there is a shortage of donors. In an effort to close this gap, The Sharing Network is requesting that New Jersey residents sign a donor card or check off the back of their driver's license, and that they discuss organ and tissue donation with their

families. For Donor Card or information call 1-800-SHARE-NJ.

Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand as of December 31, 1999:

Checking account:	\$ 3,110.76
Business Money Account:	13,995.34
Total:	17,106.10

1999 Income:

Contributions	\$1,601.50
Membership	1,146.00
Interest (checking)	29.46
Interest (savings)	246.04
Books	51.50
Total:	\$ 3,074.50

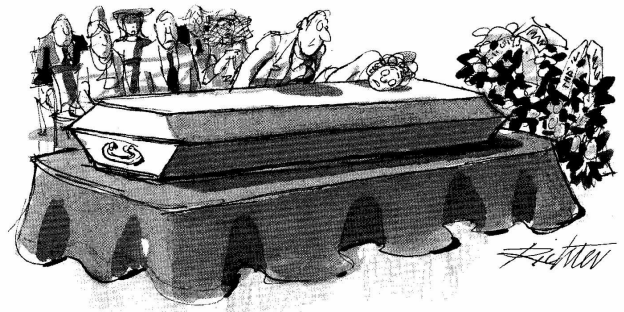
1999 Expenses:

FAMSA dues	147.29
FMS contributions	500.00
Printed material/copies	1,726.04
Postage	315.40
Supplies, etc.	129.96
Total:	\$2,818.69

R.I.P. OFF!

Modern Maturity, the magazine of the AARP, carried a feature article in its issue of March-April 2000 entitled *R.I.P. OFF*.

The article questions "Now that death has become big business, whom can you trust?" Leading off with an illustration of the pressure applied to the unprepared bereaved, it reviews the (inadequate) legislative and regulatory protection available. The article gives some sound consumer advice. We should never forget that as the bereaved survivors we are simply consumers who will be targeted by a sophisticated sales force presenting themselves as professionals Organ And Tissue Donation Statistics looking after *our* interests! Guidance is given for informed planning. (There are even web sites for buying less expensive caskets and for getting help in building your own casket!)



"It must be his beeper."

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED?

The Princeton Memorial Association is currently engaged in a thorough, area-wide survey of funeral directors to identify funeral homes whose fees are reasonable and to document the wide variation in funeral costs in our area. This interesting and revealing study is only one of the activities in which our membership may become involved.

As an educational and consumer-information society, we would like to increase awareness of our presence in the community. Opportunities exist to help with publicizing the PMA and sharing information about advance planning.

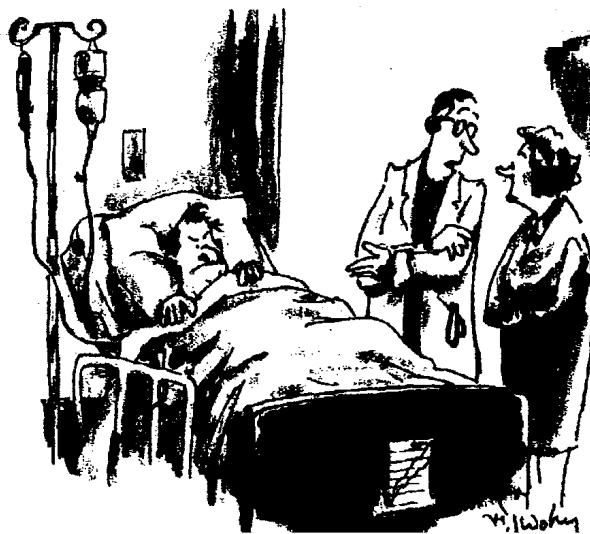
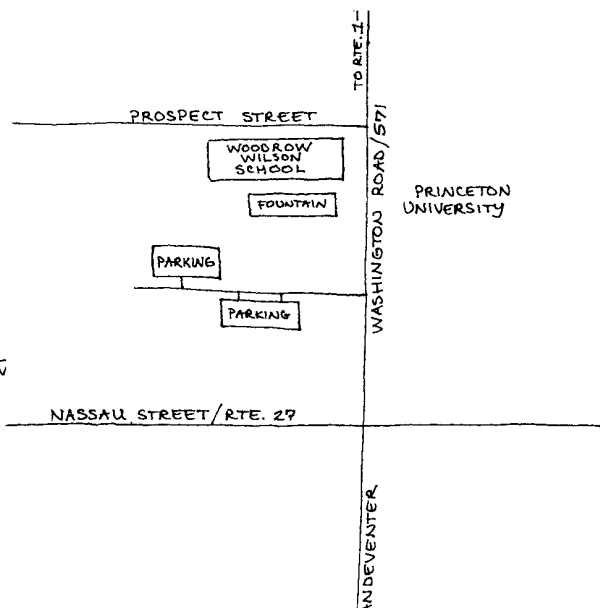
If you would care to serve on the Board of Trustees, we invite you to learn more about what we do. You could be nominated for election next spring. Contact any of the officers or board members to learn more.

On a funeral home casket price list:

Non-protective Corrugated Cardboard,
Exterior Color Brown, No Interior. \$135

-- just a black hole?

Directions to Woodrow Wilson School Site of Annual Meeting



"He's one tough cookie. I've never seen anyone bounce back from an autopsy before."

PRINCETON MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, 48 Roper Road, ...Princeton, NJ 08540

Please send me: _____ living wills
 _____ expression-of-wishes forms
 _____ copies of *Putting My House in Order* (Suggested donation \$1.50)
 _____ copies of *Survivor's Manual* (Suggested donation \$3.00)
 _____ *The American Way of Death Revisited* \$20
 _____ *Caring for the Dead: Your Final Act of Love* \$20
 _____ *A Manual of Death Education and Simple Burial* \$6.00
 _____ membership brochures to interest friends

I am pleased to send \$ _____ to cover costs and to assist the ongoing work of the Princeton Memorial Association.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
