

[<Back](#)

Alternative to a Regular Burial

A lot of people request to be buried at sea, or want their ashes scattered over the sea. Eternal Reefs gives these individuals a choice or an alternative to a regular burial. Eternal Reefs will take the cremated remains of a loved one and incorporate them into a reef formation. The artificial reef acts as a permanent memorial to the loved one while helping to save the formation of our ocean's reef systems.

Background:

Eternal Reefs, Inc. is an Atlanta-based company that provides a creative, environmentally enhancing means to memorialize the cremated remains of a loved one. The company will take the cremated remains and incorporate them into the cement mixture used to cast artificial reef formations. The artificial reefs are dedicated as permanent memorials while also bolstering natural coastal reef formations.

Reef Ball Development Group Ltd. (RBDG) is the primary strategic partner with Eternal Reefs, Inc. RBDG was created in 1992 by a group of environmentally conscious college friends who enjoyed diving. They realized that the reefs they enjoyed were deteriorating noticeably. In order to reclaim the lost natural reefs, they developed patented mold systems to recreate the natural reefs with an environmentally friendly concrete formula.

The new reefs, called Reef Balls, are produced for state agencies and numerous private organizations worldwide. With their advanced technology in the development of these reefs, RBDG became the recognized leader in this industry and by 2000, RBDG had over 100,000 Reef Balls in the water worldwide.

Eternal Reefs, Inc. was created in 1998 when Carleton Glen Palmer, the father of one of the original group members from college, requested that his cremated remains be added to the concrete in one of RBDG's reefs.

On May 1, 1998, the first in a series of memorial reefs were cast with Calton Palmer's cremated remains. The units were soon deployed into the ocean to create a beautiful man-made reef, which now is teeming with sea life.

Eternal Reefs looks forward to developing similar memorials for those individuals who wish to leave a lasting legacy to our coastal waterways.

Questions & Answers:

Q. What is an Eternal Reefs Memorial Reef?

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A. An Eternal Reefs Memorial Reef is a section of artificial reef made of concrete and is designed to honor an individual. The reefs create new marine habitats for fish and other forms of sea life.

Q. Why build a Memorial Reef?

A. The reefs provide a nurturing environment for fish and other forms of sea life. Establishing new reefs supports our natural reef systems and helps replace reefs damaged by man.

Q. Why consider Eternal Reefs as a memorial option?

A. A Memorial Reef is a dignified and meaningful memorial for a loved one and creates a permanent living environmental legacy in their honor.

Q. Where can I put a Memorial Reef?

A. Memorial Reefs are placed in locations where they are most ecologically needed, and will only be utilized in fishing and diving recreational reefs or in marine sanctuaries. Over 1500 different reef sites have been created worldwide. The sites are approved in areas designated appropriate by federal, state and local governments.

Q. Will a Memorial Reef move?

A. With over 100,000 Reef Balls deployed worldwide, the Memorial Reef design has a proven track record and has passed every government test for stability. During the devastating 1998 hurricane season in the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico many of our sites were hit directly by storms and all of our reef units remained in place.

Q. How can specific reefs be located?

A. We record the exact location of the memorial using GPS readings and we provide the estate with two memorial certificates that identify the longitude and latitude of the memorial.

Q. How long will a Memorial Reef last?

A. Our Memorial Reefs utilize a patented concrete formula and design that is designed to last over 500 years.

Q. Can loved one's remains be added to existing Memorial Reefs?

A. Eternal Reefs recommends that some of the loved one's ashes be saved so that a communal memorial can be built with the ashes from both individuals. If separate reefs are dedicated, often all of the memorials can reside in the same location.

Q. Is there a dedication for each Memorial Reef?

A. Yes. The dedication of the Memorial Reef is a very special time for family and friends. A charter boat can be arranged for a private service to honor dedication of the Memorial Reef.

Q. Can I visit the location of a Memorial Reef?

A. Memorial Reefs are accessible by boat where loved ones can fish or dive on the reef. For those who cannot visit the actual location, a

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program is being developed to photograph and video tape the reefs as they mature.

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[<Back](#)