

# THE MEMORIAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146

(617) 731-2073

(24-hr. answering service)

October, 1981

Dear Member,

This has been a significantly busy year for our Memorial Society. Starting in January and continuing into the Spring, we garnered more media coverage than ever. Notably, feature stories in The Boston Globe and on WBZ-TV helped increase our membership and visibility. At the same time, we continued to offer workshops to professional, civic, social and educational groups. On the average, we have been conducting a workshop every other week.

Also beginning in January, we began to ask funeral directors to send us their price lists. So far, we have 50 from "cooperating funeral directors" serving most areas in Eastern Massachusetts. Based on the prices we've collected we can quote these price ranges:

Simple Burial	\$401 - \$985
Simple Cremation including cremation fee	\$495.- \$875
Complete average adult funeral	\$895 - \$1355

This summer we completed the job of computerizing our mailing list which enables our staff to give information on your plan at the time of need more easily and quickly (as explained elsewhere in this newsletter).

All of these projects were made possible by your generous contributions and voluntary dues. The total amount donated last year was \$7,340. In order to continue this momentum and to continue to promote the purpose of The Memorial Society, your contributions are needed. Please be as generous as you can.

In addition, to keep your membership record in our new computerized file and to continue to offer the full range of membership benefits to you such as the 24-hour answering service, access to the latest funeral information, referral and counseling, we are asking for voluntary dues from each member.

Your dues can be paid in several ways. The cost is only \$5.00 per year for each member. For those of you who can give more, the cost of becoming a Contributory Member is \$10.00 per year. Or, for five year Contributory Members, the cost is \$50.00.

Please send your contributions and voluntary dues to The Memorial Society at the above address. In advance, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

George S. Richardson, M.D.  
President

P.S.: For your convenience, the amounts you gave last year are in code just above your name on the envelope.

"C" is contribution.  
"D" is dues.

The number that follows each letter is the amount. Thus, C,15 D,10 would mean that you contributed \$15 and paid \$10 for voluntary dues. No code means you did not contribute last year.

"P" indicates that we have your plan on file.

ATTENTION: New Tips from MSNE

MSNE NEEDS YOUR HELP

\* If you have made written plans sometime ago, perhaps they need to be updated. The funeral director recommended by us with whom you may have planned may no longer be on our list.

\* Beware of pre-payment plans with funeral directors. Some do not allow you to withdraw your money whenever you wish.

\* Take precaution when funeral services are held outside the home. Professional burglars follow the obituaries. They know a home will be vacant when family and friends are away. We recommend that someone "home sit" and that the local police be advised to patrol the area.

\* In response to an increasing number of people who have called MSNE about the legal and religious requirements, costs and customs pertaining to cremation, MSNE has compiled a general fact sheet. The Fact Sheet On Cremation is available at the annual meeting and by mail request. Please send a self-addressed stamped (35¢) envelope.

\* A service which provides direct cremation at a relatively low cost has been established in Massachusetts.

For more information on the above, please contact MSNE.

You are one of 4,000 family members. You can help dramatically increase the membership of MSNE if each of you would do one or more on the following list:

- Arrange a workshop with a church, civic, social or professional group,
- Bring a friend to the annual meeting,
- Contact your local newspaper and/or local radio station to promote the annual meeting and MSNE,
- Encourage your adult children to become MSNE members, or as a gift of love, consider giving them a MSNE membership,
- Send the enclosed brochure with a personal note from you to a friend or relative whom you think would be interested in joining MSNE.

Surely, each of you must know at least one person who would benefit by becoming a member. Please share the advantages of preplanning with your family and friends by making MSNE membership available to them.

The MSNE staff will support your efforts. If you would like additional brochures and information please contact our office.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

The first fifteen minutes of the annual meeting will include the election of new officers as follows:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

- Ade Bethune
- Lillian A. Beauvais
- Rev. George L. Blackman
- John W. Frenning
- Dr. John T. Maltsberger

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- Dr. George S. Richardson - President
- David Sheets - Treasurer
- A. Leavitt Taylor - Clerk
- Edwin F. Taylor - Vice President

Please vote by proxy if you are unable to attend the meeting.

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## PLAN IT YOUR WAY

### ANNUAL MEETING

Come to our annual meeting  
and PLAN IT YOUR WAY.

DATE: November 10, 1981  
Tuesday

TIME: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

PLACE: First & Second Unitarian  
Church  
66 Marlborough St., Boston  
(corner of Berkeley Street)

The Memorial Society encourages  
you to plan the funeral of your  
choice.

Planning cannot be overemphasized.  
Advance planning grants you the priv-  
ilege of arranging your funeral with  
your family and friends according to  
all your wishes. It spares your  
survivors the responsibility of  
making arrangements under the stress  
of grief and the pressure of time.  
Without an advance plan, your family  
may spend more than you would have  
wanted or that they can afford.

Since the purpose of MSNE is to  
make known the options and choices  
available, and to bring to public  
notice the reverence and dignity of

fit to humanity of donating bodies and  
tissues to the living and to science,  
the theme of this year's meeting is:

### PLAN IT YOUR WAY

4:00-4:15: General Business Session  
4:15-4:30: Welcoming Remarks  
4:30-7:00: Open House with exhibits  
and representatives from:

- .New England Eye Bank
- .Organ and tissue banks
- .Hospice of Good Shepherd
- .Anatomical Gifts
- .Concern for Dying (Living Will)
- .Legal Counsel
- .The Rogers Funeral Home

You are invited to bring your  
family and friends. This is an in-  
formal open house at which you will  
be able to gather the information  
you need to plan. You can speak to  
representatives of the above groups  
on a one-to-one basis. You can come  
anytime between 4:00 - 7:00 PM. Re-  
freshments will be served. Bring  
your friends and family.

THANK YOU...

(This year a client and close friend of Leavitt Taylor, Clerk and member of the Board of Directors of The Memorial Society of New England, died. Marjorie A. Larsen, formerly of Belmont, bequeathed \$1,000. to The Memorial Society of New England.)

The following is the acknowledgement letter:

Dear Leavitt:

I believe I can speak for all the directors and members in expressing our gratitude for the generous bequest of Marjorie A. Larsen. I'm sure we owe this to your friendship with her and your association with us -- but I also hope that she, herself, had good reason to think well of our Memorial Society.

Let us hope that we can continue to operate in a way that will justify her faith in us and encourage others to make similar bequests.

With much appreciation  
and gratitude,

*George Richardson*  
George Richardson *me*

HAVE YOU PLANNED WITH THE MEMORIAL  
OF NEW ENGLAND?

We have computerized our mailing list which enables the staff to provide information on your plan. At the time of death, your next-of-kin can call us on a 24-hour basis and get information on your chosen plan and funeral director.

Now you can take advantage of this valuable new membership benefit, but only if you have sent us your plan.

If you cannot remember whether or not you have sent us your plan, look at your address on the envelope in which you received this newsletter.

If the letter "P" appears above your name, it means that we have your plan. If not, perhaps you should give special thought to attending the annual meeting, PLAN IT YOUR WAY, on November 10th.

If you have planned with us and would like a copy of our computer record, please indicate that on the form below and send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

The Memorial Society of New England  
25 Monmouth Street  
Brookline, MA 02146