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Eternal Reefs: An Eco-Friendly Memorial at Sea



A non-profit named the [Reef Ball Foundation](#) has deployed over half a million Reef Balls. These artificial reef modules help to rehabilitate marine reefs. Atypical Events [reports](#) that a company named [Eternal Reefs](#) has turned the reef ball concept into a memorial service. The company mixes a person's cremated remains with the concrete reef ball mixture to create a special memorial reef.

The company offers a way to have a memorial and help out the environment at the same time, by creating a memorial reef that contains the ashes of the deceased.

The memorial reefs are known as "reef balls." They are constructed by mixing cremated remains with liquid concrete, which is put into mold in order to create the reef ball.

The reef ball is placed alongside other reef balls to create an artificial reef that provides a habitat for sea life.

Within a few weeks, marine life will begin to take hold in the artificial reef, which will look like a natural reef within a few months. It creates a living legacy that is a unique way to memorialize someone who has passed.

A special bronze memorial plaque is also placed on the reef ball. There is also a dedication day where Eternal Reefs has a charter boat take all the families to the reef site to witness the placement of the Memorial Reefs. The cost of this service ranges between \$2,495 and \$6,495. Eternal Reef also has a reef ball memorial service for pets called [Pearls](#). Eternal Reefs provides a detailed faq [here](#) about how it works and what to expect.

Q) Why should I consider Eternal Reefs as a memorial option?

A) We believe the greatest celebration of life is to provide the opportunity for new life, and the living-breathing legacy of a Memorial Reef is a dignified and meaningful environmental memorial for a loved one. As President John F. Kennedy said, "We are tied to the ocean, and when we go back to the sea... we are going back from whence we came."

Q) How do you create a Memorial Reef?

A) We take the cremated remains and mix them into the concrete as the reef is being cast. The reefs then cure for approximately one month. After the curing period we place the Memorial Reefs in the permitted location.

Q) Can I participate in the casting of the Memorial Reef?

A) Absolutely, we have found that being involved in the creation of the Memorial Reef is a very rewarding experience and is an important step in dealing with the loss of a loved. We encourage family and friends to come and be a part of the casting process. Participants mix the remains and pour the concrete into the mold and can place handprints and write messages in the wet concrete.

The *Baltimore Sun* has a [story](#) and photograph of a reef ball memorial service in action. Below is a video about this unique memorial service. There is another video about Eternal Reef's service on The Weather Channel's site called [Become a Reef](#).

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