

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the Willed Body Program at Baylor College of Medicine. Attached is "Common Facts and Misconceptions About Donating Your Body to a Medical School" and a Bequest (Donor) Form. It is important that your next of kin be informed and is in accordance with your wishes to donate your body. We suggest that they serve as witnesses, when possible. Please note that we need the complete paperwork at least 6 months in advance of the anticipated donation.

To become a registered donor, please complete all sections of the Bequest (Donor) Form, sign, date and return the signed original form to us at the address at the bottom of this letter. Keep this cover letter and a copy of the completed form for your files and future reference. You may wish to make additional copies of the completed form and distribute to those you wish to be informed, such as your physician, minister, attorney and next of kin. Upon receipt of the completed Bequest (Donor) Form, we will send you a donor card to carry with you for identification. Should you move or change your mind regarding donation, the bequest form will be made invalid upon written notification from you.

There are cases in which bodies cannot be accepted for donation at the time of death. Examples of these include: severe injury or deformity from an accident; contagious diseases (hepatitis, HIV (AIDS)), or tuberculosis; obesity or edema; or when an autopsy has been performed. The medical school does not accept bodies from which organs for transplantation have been removed.

At the time of death, the individual in attendance should call Carnes Funeral Home at 1-888-822-7637 for the body to be picked up and delivered to Baylor College of Medicine. Baylor may utilize the body up to three or more years. There is no charge to the family or estate for transportation from any point within a 100-mile radius of Houston to the medical school, and there is no charge for standard cremation. The final disposition (cremation) is generally with a medical school. However, should you request return of the ashes to the family; there is a charge, since this is contrary to our normal method of scattering the ashes at sea.

Your desire to donate your body to Baylor College of Medicine is deeply appreciated. The gift of one's body is an invaluable contribution to the education of future physicians and ultimately the advancement of medical science. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Caroline M. Kosnik

Caroline M. Kosnik
Administrative Associate
Willed Body Program

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