

How Would Your Tombstone Read?

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We don't like to think of death, but have you ever given thought to what might people say at your funeral or write on your tombstone if you were to pass today?

- Immortal Tombstone Inscriptions: "Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York: Born 1903--Died 1942. Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on the way down. It was."
- On a grave in Nova Scotia: "Here lies Ezekial Aikle, Age 102. Only The Good Die Young."
- In Ruidoso, New Mexico: "Here lies Johnny Yeast...Pardon me for not rising."
- In Uniontown, Pennsylvania: "Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake. Stepped on the gas instead of the brake."
- In Silver City, Nevada: "Here lays The Kid. We planted him raw. He was quick on the trigger but slow on the draw."
- In England: "Reader, if cash thou art in want of any, Dig 6 feet deep and thou wilt find a Penny." In another cemetery: "On the 22nd of June, Jonathan Fiddle went out of tune."
- In Nantucket, Massachusetts: "Under the sod and under the trees, Lies the body of Jonathan Pease. He is not here, there's only the pod. Pease shelled out and went to God."
- In Tombstone, Arizona: "Here lies Lester Moore Shot by a 44, No Les, No Moore."
- (From "The Dash" by Linda Ellis) "I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of his friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning...to the end. He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years. For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth...and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not how much we own; the cars...the house...the cash. What matters is how we live and love, and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard...are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

So, when your eulogy's being read with your life's actions to rehash...would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?"

A wise person once shared, "When you were born, you cried and the world rejoiced. Live your life in a manner that when you die, the world cries and you rejoice."