

## BOOK REVIEW

*A Graceful Farewell, Putting your Affairs in Order*  
By Maggie Watson, published by Cypress House, 2006

Maggie Watson has prepared a very useful workbook, with CD, for anyone who wants family and friends to be able to carry out their wishes after death. The forms which comprise the workbook may be photocopied or printed using the CD.

As she says: "The promise of this workbook is that it will give you peace of mind. If you take the time to complete this, you'll be confident that your affairs are in order—known and locatable—and that there are clear instructions for those left behind. It will allow your family and friends to deal with the details of your death or incapacity with comparative ease, unhampered at this important time by missing or nonexistent information."

We often prefer not to think about the death of family members, friends, or especially of our own death. Avoidance will create more problems than it will solve.

Using this helpful workbook, alone or with a trusted friend or family member, will clarify issues of employment benefits, money, wills, and location of important papers. Additionally, you will consider what should happen to pets, property, important collections, and valuable or sentimental personal belongings.

You will also clarify your desires regarding memorial services, burial, organ/tissue donation and other decisions you should make, so your family will know how to fulfill your wishes.

Having instructions for those left to deal with the myriad issues involved with death or incapacity is leaving a loving legacy.