

Dead Sunday

General introduction

Losing our loved ones is a very painful experience. It's almost certain that the death anniversary of someone dear to us can be an emotionally difficult period. Also, running out of ideas to commemorate the your beloved one can be tasking, especially when you lack the necessary information to plan one.

If you are dealing with losing a loved one or preparing for such an event, this article will give you all you need to know about Dead Sunday in Germany and unique ideas on how you can commemorate a deceased beloved.

History and Significance of Dead Sunday in Germany

Totensonntag is a German term that translates as "Sunday of the Dead." It is a festival of the Dead that originates from King Frederick William III of Prussia's reign.

For the first time in 1816, Dead Sunday was observed as a special religious day. Thanks to the Kings' desire to commemorate the memory of those who had fallen in the War of Liberation between the years 1813 and 1815, and his earnest need to mourn his wife, Duchess Louise of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Queen of Prussia, who died in 1810. It made the King to order his cabinet to pass a motion requiring all Lutheran churches in Prussia to observe the day in honor of the dead.

Eventually, other Lutheran churches in the rest of Germany also started to celebrate the Dead Sunday as a ritual to commemorate all the departed on the last Sunday in the German Evangelical Church's liturgical year. The Dead Sunday celebration typically takes place annually in the month of November.

Some Protestant churches observe the day in other parts of the world, such as the United States. Dead Sunday generally takes place on the same date as the Feast of All Saints, a festival that honors all Christian saints.

Customs and Traditions Observed on Dead Sunday

The Dead Sunday celebration in Germany is considered to be less morbid than other religious practices that commemorate the dead. It is often called the "Eternal Sunday," the "Last Sunday of the Church Year," or the "Feast of the Dead" and gives different interpretations to it. For the most part, many state churches leave the decision to celebrate the feast to the congregation.

The remembrance of the deceased in other religions, such as Roman Catholicism, is on All Souls' Day on 2 November. In Germany, many pay visits to the graves of loved ones who have died on this day. They hold special services in several Lutheran and Protestant congregations.

The law bans music or dance performances in some German states. Offices, banks, and schools are closed down. Public transport is generally scheduled on a regular Sunday schedule.

The liturgical color of green is attributed to the Dead Sunday in the Protestant Church. While All Souls of Catholics, on the other side, usually go hand-in-hand with purple or black.

The Church urges people to avoid visiting the Christmas markets on this day out of reverence for the dead. As a tradition, some churches visit the cemetery to decorate the deceased loved ones' graves in honor of them.

Modern Ways to Commemorate Deceased Loved One

There are many ways to cherish the legacy of a loved one who has passed away. Memorializing those you cared about helps keep that person's memory alive and shows others just how much he or she meant to you.

Draw upon the arts, religious and faith traditions, literature, or music of your beloved one as a guide for a reflective and healing memorial. It ensures that the emotional bond with your loved one is preserved even after their death.

If you're looking to observe Dead Sunday this year, here are some modern Dead Sunday traditions for you to consider in reminiscing about your loved one. These ideas are keen to inspire you with something that captures the special essence of your loved one.

Build something in their honor

Even if you're not all that handy, carrying out a project like this will be a great way to honor someone you love. It can be an art piece you can keep to spark memories in the future.

In a time of loss, creativity can be therapeutic and soothing. You can try out an easily crafted birdhouse or even a rock garden. By adding personal images of your deceased loved one, you can turn a piece of your beloved furniture into a heritage and memorial heirloom.

Attach the photographs with an adhesive onto the piece of furniture. Seal the entire piece as soon as the pictures are secured and dry. It is an awesome and fun-to-create-piece you can pass through generations and keep alive the memory of your loved one.

Turn their ashes into cremation diamond

Cremation diamonds are diamonds from ashes; they are preferably called remembrance diamonds because of their significance to everyone who owns them.

Remembrance diamonds are usually set into a piece of memorial jewelry, such as a cremation ring, pendant, or pair of earrings, and the wearer can take comfort because they will always have their loved one with them.

Diamonds are, in fact, forever gems. Owning remembrance diamonds of you or your deceased beloved symbolizes a dignifying transition to eternal life. It is a glaring process where the cremation ashes of the deceased are turned into Diamonds.

Lonite is the most renowned provider of Diamond from ashes burial in Germany. This Switzerland-based company is equipped with a state of the art laboratory. Providing various types of remembrance diamond from 99.99% ashes via a High-Pressure-High-Temperature (HPHT) technology. The diamond derived from this process is both GIA and IGI certified.

Depending on the color and size of the diamond you choose, the creation process, which involves six precise steps of Examination, crystallization, purification, more purification, more crystallization, and polishing, takes between 3 to 9 months. A .25 clear diamond can be created in around six months for \$2400.

Remembrance diamonds are a personal yet exquisite and dignifying option you can consider to commemorate your deceased loved one.

Get a permanent tattoo in their honor

Tattoos aren't for everyone, but many people get a tattoo as a way to remember a loved one. You can have a tattoo of their initials, dates of birth, and death. If you would like to be creative, you can get a tattoo of their portrait, a quote from their favorite book, or even an inside

joke between you both. The tattoo could be serious or light-hearted, whatever feels right for you.

Of course, it is trendy as some tattoo parlors have started mixing cremated remains with their ink as a more personal way to honor your loved one.

Turn their ashes into a tree

It may come as a surprise to you to learn how advanced the funeral industry can be. To keep pace with shifting attitudes, the funeral industry is constantly developing.

Now cremated ashes can be used to turn you or a loved one into a tree after death. It is simpler than you would assume and requires the use of an urn that is biodegradable. Urns come in a variety of unique designs.

Please find out the different kinds of trees that you can select from the companies that sell them. Preferably choose one that suits your climate and may have a personal significance for you or your loved one. Please choose the right place for your cremation tree and follow the instructions to grow it when adding the ashes to the urn.

Ashes are usually combined with some food additive or plant food. It neutralizes anything that could impede plant growth. It also provides positive nutrients to sustain the growth in the urn.

After you have added the ashes to the cremation tree, plant the urn as needed. Depending on the company you use, you may plant a seed or a seedling. Follow any planting directions the company sends. Remember that your tree is a living thing, so you'll need to tend to it as it grows.

Create a memorial bench

Many cemeteries permit you to add a memorial bench near the resting place of your beloved one. With this you can have a quiet place to sit and focus on the memories of the person you have lost any time you visit. Benches can often be customized in terms of material, aesthetic, and most crucially, the message inscribed on them.

Moreover, you can also order and mount a memorial bench in several public locations for both tourists and residents, rich and poor, young and old. It is an effective way to give back to the community, as it will be of good use.

Create a memorial website or Facebook page

You can create a memorial website in a number of ways. If you're not into this kind of thing, you can get someone to set up your website. Platforms such as WordPress, Wix, and Squarespace offer free DIY click and drag sites. You can easily create a Facebook page or use any memorial website platform of your choice to create a tribute page for your loved one free of charge. Most of them have free basic plans with premium upgrades that support uploading of photos, videos, and any other documents you may need to tell the story of your beloved.

Make a donation in their name

One of the best ways to show children how to honor a loved one is by giving back to society. Encouraging them to help their neighbors with routine tasks will teach them hard work and volunteer work.

You can consider donating to a cause your beloved is passionate about on their behalf. Donations of any kind are always welcome and necessary.

Dedicate an event to their memory

An annual or onetime celebration in remembrance of your loved one can be a great way of paying tribute to their lives. Celebrate your Dead loved one on their birthday by throwing a celebration of life party for him or her. The event might also be a fundraiser for a charity they cared about.

Many people view elegance and significance in a dove or butterfly release, so consider celebrating your beloved with an eco-friendly and vibrant ceremony. It may also be part of a longer service or a Dead Sunday ritual.

Conclusion

The Protestant Day of the Dead Sunday is a silent reflection and a dignified commemoration. Whether in Germany, the United States, or elsewhere, the

purpose of this date is to honor and remember the deceased. It's never easy to lose someone you love, and with these remembrance ideas, we hope we can provide you some guidance. If you had a loved one pass away recently, we would like to extend you our deepest sympathies.