

The Mariner's Farewell® Ceremony

You and your guests will be escorted to the vessel at the scheduled time. All will be briefed on safety procedures and the Mariner's Farewell® ceremony. Offshore, the ceremony will begin with the vessel circling left (meaning, "turning back the hands of time"). The vessel will come to a full stop (weather permitting) and the guests will be gathered for final farewells. The Forever Basket, which is crowned by a beautiful garland of flowers, will be presented on deck. Then the basket may be passed from each guest to the next for a personal, private moment. At this time, personal thoughts, prayers or poems may be shared by the group. As the basket is passed, each guest will be handed a flower for tossing. The Mariner's Farewell® verse may be spoken when the basket is gently lowered into the sea. The ashes will now begin their new journey, to be carried by the current, forever. The vessel will circle the ashes to the right (meaning, "time and life goes on") completing the figure eight infinity sign. The ship's bell will be rung eight times (meaning, "end of watch") and as you hear the bell, you may toss your flower as a gesture of 'letting go,' which ends the ceremony.

*Exclusively by Ashes At Sea
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