

## The Rights of the Dying

*The right to be treated as a living human being.*

*The right to maintain a sense of hopefulness, however changing its focus may be.*

*The right to be cared for by those who can maintain a sense of hopefulness, however changing this may be.*

*The right to express feelings and emotions about death in one's own way.*

*The right to participate in all decisions concerning one's care.*

*The right to be cared for by compassionate, sensitive, knowledgeable people who will attempt to understand one's needs.*

*The right to expect continuing medical care, even though the goals may change from "cure" to "comfort" goals.*

*The right to have all questions answered honestly and fully.*

*The right to seek spirituality.*

*The right to be free of physical pain.*

*The right to express feelings and emotions about pain in one's own way.*

*The right of children to participate in death.*

*The right to understand the process of death.*

*The right to die.*

*The right to die in peace and dignity.*

*The right not to die alone.*

*The right to expect that the sanctity of the body will be respected after death.*