



Taking the course Death and Dying has provided me with a comprehensive exploration of the multifaceted dimensions of death, dying, and bereavement. Throughout the course, we explored the various cultural, religious, and societal attitudes toward mortality through interdisciplinary perspectives encompassing psychology, sociology, anthropology, and philosophy. We examined diverse end-of-life care practices, ethical considerations in medical decision-making, and rituals surrounding death. Furthermore, the course facilitated introspective reflection on personal beliefs and attitudes towards mortality, fostering empathy and understanding towards individuals experiencing grief and loss. This experience profoundly impacted my worldview, cultivating a deeper appreciation for the fragility of life and the significance of compassionate end-of-life care. It underscored the importance of open dialogue surrounding death, challenging societal taboos, and promoting meaningful discussions on mortality planning and bereavement support. I chose to include this photo as a sample of something that exemplified my learning because it is much more than simply a photo. Pictured above is a photo of Bill Gupton. He is the owner of Heritage Acres, the only green burial ground in Cincinnati, or anywhere nearby. He gave me a

tour of the burial ground while he explained how he became interested in this line of work and how he is involved in the death-positive movement. During this tour, Bill stopped at nearly every grave to tell me the name of the person buried there and anything he knew about them. He knew all of the 70+ people buried on his property and went out to the wooded area daily to make sure the flat grave markers were clear of debris. I took this photo as he did just that, and felt that it embodied all of the great things I learned within this course.