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Home Video DVD Review: Facing Death & Dying Well

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Author: Heloise — Published: Oct 11, 2011 at 9:36 pm Ocomments

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"...all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure—these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die..." Steve Jobs (June 14, 2005, commencement address at Stanford University)

The expected yet early death of Steve Jobs--technology compositional genius who orchestrated a new age of electronic icons—creates a teachable moment about death and rebirth. I think it is fitting to weave these current events with cosmic change. Ironically recent remarks above from Jobs set the scene. He traveled with a friend in 1973 to India returning a shorn Buddhist complete with robes; however, Robert Thurman said he would not consider him a "practicing Buddhist." But perhaps we can incorporate Buddhist's beliefs with how Jobs conducted his death as well as his life and Apple Corporation.

On the other hand, we can play the "what if" game about his rebirth in this country. To do that we must fast forward five years—what should we look for if America participated in rituals like those of Buddhists—what would it look like? If Americans worshipped at the technology altar and affirmed a technology lineage, we would seek a male child who has an uncanny knowledge of all things technological and craves going barefoot while wearing jeans and a black T-shirt. I could go on but you get the idea. The child would then be tested as heir by recognizing items that belonged to the former owner.

In this DVD the 14th Dalai Lama spoke about death but did not recount how he was located by the monks who visited his home and tested him with objects when he was just a small child. But fulllength movies and documentaries are available that recount his humble beginnings.

According to His Holiness, it is not what the man believes in when he shakes the mortal coil but how he dies. And this DVD is about helping everyone to face death and to die well. One ingredient that aided Jobs in death was a peaceful setting surrounded by loved ones. The Buddhists believe this is the only (preferred) way to die because it opens the door to a good rebirth.

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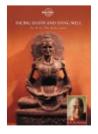


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Author, writer, teacher, blogger, keeps a blog The Trough where she writes. She combines spirituality and politics as no other. She is a native of Chicago, who prefers walking as exercise. The author has a B.S., biology and M.A., anthropology, certified science and french teacher.

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Dalai Lama, H.H. - Facing Death And Dying Well

Release date: 2011-09-27 Running time: 165 minutes

Publisher: GONZO DISTRIBUTION L

This programme is approximately 165 minutes long and includes H.H. The Dalai Lama teaching about the truth of suffering, the Three Characteristics of Existence and the

dissolution of the body's elements at death. ...

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