

# History

How Infinity Memorial Systems® Began Cremation Technologies, Inc. is columbarium manufacturing company that was founded in 1997 with the idea that cremation related products such as cremation niches and urns could be more space-efficient, cost-effective and durable. By utilizing modern materials and designs, the founders of the company believed they could create a columbarium system that addressed all of the shortcomings of traditional cremation related products.

Ed Irwin and Greg Mathews then set out to find a way of interring cremains in a smaller urn. Knowing that space is a valuable commodity, they determined that reducing the volume of cremains would be a great benefit to churches and cemeteries with high demand for niches but not enough room to build traditionally sized columbaria.

The company's founders drew this diagram to explain how the unique design of Infinity Urns® and their new niche system could hold nine times the number of urns than that of traditionally sized niches.

## Cremains Reduction Process Patented

The process they invented is called cremains reduction and it is patented in several forms internationally. The process allows cremains to be reduced to a fraction of their normal volume. They settled on a reduction rate of approximately 50% which worked well with a system of niche and urn products they designed that can accept as many as nine times as many urns as a traditionally sized columbarium.

The first product the company developed was the Infinity Urn®. The first urn was manufactured from high grade stainless steel and aircraft precision aluminum into a cylinder shaped product specifically designed to accept compressed cremains. The workstation they designed to fill the urns was their next project. The Infinity Compression Workstation® works exclusively with Infinity Urns®, Infinity Memorial Systems® Niches

The next step in creating a completely new columbarium system was to design niches to accept Infinity Urns® and take advantage of their unique design and smaller size. The result was the first Infinity Memorial Wall® which was manufactured with structural foam and acrylic cabinets. The walls could accept nine urns per square foot of facing which was nine to 18 times more than traditional columbarium walls.

Over the years, Cremation Technologies, Inc. has expanded and improved the Infinity Memorial Systems® product line. Niche units are now more modular than before which increases their flexibility, mobility and expandability. The niche units are now available in more colors and finishes and can be combined with natural materials and other optional accessories manufactured by the company in order to create infinite columbarium designs.

Infinity Urns® are still manufactured from stainless steel with aluminum end caps, but they now come in four sizes. The urns are also available in a variety of colors in the all-aluminum line.

Cremation Technologies, Inc. has partnered with several companies to expand the line of accessories that it can offer to churches that install Infinity Memorial Systems® columbaria. Specialized products are available for holding memorial flowers, storing digital information about the deceased, custom wall designs, dedication plaques and more.