## **CONTENTS**

List of Illustrations and Tables	vii
Preface	ix
How to Use This Book	xiii
Life and Death	1
A to Z Entries	9
Abuse of the Sick and Infirm	11
Alternative Living	15
Attitudes Toward Death, Teenage	19
Autopsy	25
Cremation	30
Death, Unexpected and Planned	35
Death and Dying, The Business of	42
Death and Money	49
Death and the Family	55
Death of a Friend	60
Death of a Parent	64
Doctors' Perspectives	70
Drug and Alcohol Abuse	74
Dying, The Process of	79

Dying, The Statistics of	87
Elderly Men, Aging of	90
Elderly Women, Aging of	95
Ethnic Rituals and Death	100
Fear of Death	104
Grieving, The Process of	109
Growing Old in America	116
Help and Support	124
Living Longer: Living Better?	129
Loss of a Pet	135
Managing Death	139
Media's View, The	145
Organ Donation	151
Planning for Death	157
Right to Die, The	161
Smoking and Death	170
Stages of Death, The	175
Teenage Deaths	178
Terminal Diseases Affecting Youths	184
Traditions and Death	189
Violent Death	194
Hotlines and Help Sites	203
Glossary	207
Index	213

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND TABLES

Hours Dedicated to Caregiving, by Age of the Family Caregiver	16
Leading Causes of Death in the United States by Age	20
U.S. Cremation Rates by State	35
Health Care Expenditures over a Life Span	50
Blood-Alcohol Levels and Behavior	75
Leading Causes of Death Among Children Ages 1–14, 2005	89
Driver Fatality Rates, 2001	93
Number of People with Alzheimer's Disease, by Age Group	96
Stages of the Normal Grief Response: A Comparison of Models by Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, John Bowlby, and George Engel	113
Projected U.S. Growth of the Age 55 and Over Population	118
Patients Served by Hospice in the United States, 1982 to 2006	125
The Dramatic Aging of America, 1900–2030	132
Proportion of Deaths Occurring at Home	143

## viii The Truth About Death and Dying

U.S. Deceased Organ Donors by Cause of Death, 1995–2006	155
Getting Insurance Coverage	159
Assisted-Suicide Laws in the United States	166
Annual U.S. Deaths Attributed to Cigarette Smoking, 1997–2001	172
Teenage Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths	179
Leading Causes of Death, All Ages	186
Homicide Victimization by Age, 1976–2005	196