

Spirituality in Caring for the Dying

with Special Guest Speakers:

Dr. Carl Becker and Dr. William G. (Bill) Hoy

Join us for a special workshop with two world-renowned experts in the field of death and dying.

Dr. Carl Becker, Specially Appointed Professor of Policy Science at the Medical School of Kyoto University, Japan and Dr. William G. (Bill) Hoy, Clinical Professor Emeritus of Medical Humanities at Baylor University, Waco, TX **will discuss research on medical ethics at end of life, psychosocial support for terminal patients, creating meaning-making, and the importance of spiritual experiences of patients facing death.**



Monday, April 7

9am – 12pm

Registration & Breakfast at 8:30am

St. Timothy Catholic Church

29102 Crown Valley Parkway

Laguna Niguel, 92677

3 FREE CEUs for Nurses and Chaplaincy

-Seating is Limited -

Please RSVP at www.oconnormortuary.com/events

Carl Becker, PhD., D.Psych. Kyoto University School of Medicine received his PhD on Death and Dying from the East-West Center of the University of Hawaii. Teaching philosophy at SIU Carbondale, he helped establish SIU-C's Mortuary Science and Funeral Service Department. In 1983 he moved to Japan where he taught at National Osaka, Tsukuba, and Kyoto Universities. In 1986 he received the SIETAR Award from Cross-Cultural Understanding, in 2009, the Honda Award from the Emperor for his studies of death and dying, in 2018 an honorary Doctorate in Psychology from the Moscow Graduate Institute of Psychoanalysis for his work counseling bereaved clients, and in 2021, the Association of Death Education and Counseling award as leading Educator on Death and Dying. Now, Professor of the Policy Science Unit at Kyoto University's School of Medicine, Becker leads a national survey of bereavement, and supports terminal patients and suicidal survivors. He serves on the editorial board of *Mortality*, *Journal of Near-Death Studies*, *Journal for the Study of Spirituality*, and many other medical journals.

Over the last 40 years, Dr. Bill Hoy has been walking alongside the dying, bereaved, and the professionals and volunteers who care for them. For 17 years he worked in bereavement and hospice counseling at Pathways Hospice in Long Beach, CA and remains a clinical program advisor. From 2012 – 2024, he was Clinical Professor of Medical Humanities at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Though primarily a bedside clinician, Dr. Hoy has authored more than 250 articles and book chapters as well as seven books. His books in print include *Do Funerals Matter?* (Routledge, 2013), *Bereavement Groups and the Role of Social Support* (Routledge, 2016), and his newest book, *Creating Meaning in Funerals* (Routledge, 2025). Active in the Association for Death Education and Counseling, serving as a board member from 2012 – 2020, in 2021 he received ADEC's prestigious Academic Educator of the Year award. He holds advisory positions and is a frequent program contributor for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and the Hospice Foundation of America, both located in Washington D.C.

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