

Yvonne Rand
Jikai Myo-On Cremation Ceremony

August 26, 2020
Fernwood Cemetery, Mill Valley, CA

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*Incense Offering:*

Like a cloud in an endless sky,  
A lotus in muddy water —  
One with the pure mind of Buddha,  
    We offer this incense throughout space and time,  
    May it be as fragrant as earth itself,  
    Reflecting our wholehearted mindfulness,  
    And the fruit of understanding, slowly ripening.  
May we be companions of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas —  
Awaken from forgetfulness  
And realize our True Home!

*Hilary and Chris offer incense to Yvonne, one stick each.*

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Dharma Statement:

This opportune physical form
Worth more than a wish-granting gem
You only gain its like the once.
So hard to get, so easily destroyed —
Like lightning in the summer sky.
 — Tsong Kapa

Today, Yvonne Rand,
 Jikai Myo-On
 Ocean of Compassion, Luminous Sound
 Pioneer householder priest!
 Animal whisperer!
 Artist! Adamantine teacher —
 Mother! Daughter! Lover! Seeker!
 Unflinching interuptress of the habitual!

Today you enter Nirvana — “Do not say too late!”
Blow out all concepts!
Swallow the darkness!

Now in all sincerity we perform this cremation ceremony
for love of you and your tangible sweetness—

Your Way is fully accomplished —
“No form, we just say thank you.”

We have a simple way to assist you —
A handful of fire to burn this phantom body.

For support along the Way we invoke the presence and compassion
of Buddhas and Ancestors:

Chanting the names of Buddhas and Ancestors

Homage to the Dharmakaya Vairochana Buddha
Homage to the Sambhogakaya Lochana Buddha
Homage to the Nirmanakaya Shakyamuni Buddha
Homage to the future Maitreya Buddha
Homage to all Buddhas in the ten directions past, present and future
Homage to the Maha Saddharma Pundarika Sutra
Homage to Manjusri the perfect wisdom Bodhisattva
Homage to Samantabhadra the shining practice Bodhisattva
Homage to Avalokiteshvara the infinite compassion Bodhisattva
Homage to Arya Tara, Saviress, Mother of all Buddhas,
the beneficent Protectress
Homage to the many Bodhisattva Mahasattvas
Homage to the Maha Prajna Paramita

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*Statements from Family:*

*Chris Rand*  
*Hilary Rand*

At the close of Hilary’s statement she “bridges” to the on-line chanting of the  
*Metta Sutta*: Formal recitation led by Irene; chanting along quietly at Fernwood.

# Discourse on Loving Kindness

This is what should be done  
By one who is skilled in goodness,  
And who knows the path of peace:  
Let them be able and upright,  
Straightforward and gentle in speech.  
Humble and not conceited,  
Contented and easily satisfied.  
Unburdened with duties and frugal in their ways  
Peaceful and calm, and wise and skillful,  
Not proud and demanding in nature.  
Let them not do the slightest thing  
That the wise would later reprove.  
Wishing: In gladness and in safety,  
May all beings be at ease.  
Whatever living beings there may be,  
Whether they are weak or strong, omitting none,  
The great or the mighty, medium, short or small,  
The seen and the unseen,  
Those living near and far away,  
Those born and to-be-born  
May all beings be at ease!

Let none deceive another,  
Or despise any being in any state.  
Let none through anger or ill-will  
Wish harm upon another.  
Even as a mother protects with her life  
Her child, her only child,  
So with a boundless heart  
Should one cherish all living beings,  
Radiating kindness over the entire world:  
Spreading upwards to the skies,  
And downwards to the depths,  
Outwards and unbounded.  
Freed from hatred and ill-will.  
Whether standing or walking, seated or lying down,  
Free from drowsiness,  
One should sustain this recollection.  
This is said to be the sublime abiding.  
By not holding to fixed views,  
The pure-hearted one, having clarity of vision,  
Being freed from all sense desires,  
Is not born again into this world.

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Great Wisdom Beyond Wisdom Heart Sutra

Introduced by Wendy

Chanted very slowly, in unison, with marking bells

Avalokiteshvara Bodhisattva, when practicing deeply the *prajñā pāramitā*, perceived that all five *skandhas* in their own being are empty, and was saved from all suffering. “O Shariputra, form does not differ from emptiness, emptiness does not differ from form; that which is form is emptiness, that which is emptiness form. The same is true of feelings, perceptions, formations, consciousness. O Shariputra, all *dharmas* are marked with emptiness: they do not appear nor disappear, are not tainted nor pure, do not increase nor decrease. Therefore, in emptiness, no form, no feelings, no perceptions, no formations, no consciousness; no eyes, no ears, no nose, no tongue, no body, no mind, no color, no sound, no smell, no taste, no touch, no object of mind; no realm of eyes, until no realm of mind-consciousness; no ignorance, and also no extinction of it, until no old-age-and-death, and also no extinction of it; no suffering, no origination, no stopping, no path, no cognition, also no attainment. With nothing to attain, a Bodhisattva depends on *prajñā pāramitā* and the mind is no hindrance. Without any hindrance, no fears exist. Far apart from every perverted view one dwells in nirvana. In the three worlds all Buddhas depend on *prajñā pāramitā* and attain unsurpassed complete perfect enlightenment. Therefore, know the *prajñā pāramitā* is the great transcendent mantra, is the great bright mantra, is the utmost mantra, is the supreme mantra, which is able to relieve all suffering and is true not false. So, proclaim the *prajñā pāramitā* mantra, proclaim the mantra that says, *Gate, gate, pāragate, pārasamgate! Bodhi! Svāhā!*”

Eko

We have recited the names of the Buddhas and Ancestors,
Chanted for you the Metta Sutta of Loving Kindness, and
the Great Wisdom Beyond Wisdom Heart Sutra,
offering you the Luminous Sound of Intimate Language
to accompany you on your journey —
“Conditioned things are transient
Accomplish your aim with diligence and care!”

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*The Three Refuges*

Now you return to the Threefold Refuge of ultimate comfort  
and support:

Now you return to Buddha,  
Now you return to Dharma,  
Now you return to Sangha. [Bell/stop]

A second time...

Now you return to Buddha as the perfect teacher,  
Now you return to Dharma as the perfect teaching,  
Now you return to Sangha as the perfect life. [Bell/stop]

A third time...

Now you have completely returned to Buddha,  
Now you have completely returned to Dharma,  
Now you have completely returned to Sangha.

Conditioned things are transient!  
Accomplish your aim with diligence and care.  
(The final words of the Buddha) [Three bells]

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Covering the Casket with Flowers - Incorporating written and offered tributes

Because the Way is basically pure and all pervading
We warmly convey this gift of fragrant flowers from your garden
At Goat in the Road along the Redwood Creek Watershed,
Into the empty field of Awakening.

“In this world
We walk the roof of Hell,
Gazing at flowers.” —Issa

Please join me as we chant the Enmei Jukku Kannon Gyo,
while circumambulating Yvonne’s body.

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*Enmei Jukku Kannon Gyo*

Kan Ze On  
Namu Butsa  
Yo Butsu I En  
Yo Butsu U En  
Buppo So En  
Jo Raku Ga Jo  
Cho Nen Kan Ze On  
Bo Nen Kan Ze On  
Nen Nen Ju Shin Ki  
Nen Nen Fu Ri Shin

Avalokitesvara , perceiver of the cries of the world,  
Takes refuge in Buddha  
Will be a Buddha,  
Helps all to be Buddhas,  
Is not separate from Buddha, Dharma, Sangha —  
Being eternal, intimate, pure and joyful.  
In the morning, be one with Avalokitesvara!  
In the evening, be one with Avalokitesvara!  
Whose heart, moment by moment, arises —  
Whose heart, moment by moment, remains!

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Dedication of Merit

We dedicate the blessings of this ceremony to our beloved
friend, mother and teacher, Householder Priest, intrepid pioneer,
Yvonne Rand, Jikai Myo-On:

By the truth and virtue of this practice
May all beings have happiness
 and the causes of happiness.
May all be free from suffering
 and the causes of suffering.
May all never be separate from
 the sacred happiness
 devoid of suffering
May all live in equanimity
 without too much attraction
 too much aversion
May all live believing
 in the equality of all who live.

All Buddhas, ten directions, three times,
All Beings, Bodhisattva Mahasattvas
Wisdom beyond Wisdom, Maha Prajña Paramita!

Processional to Crematorium