



ALL PHOTOS BY STEVE HARDER



Ashes to wood

Dust to dust. Ashes to ashes. Ashes to wood. For people who are cremated, a handcrafted hardwood urn is a natural final resting place.

Wood-turned cremation urns by Ben McLellan of Inklings in Wood in Maitland are not only practical, but beautiful.

It takes numerous steps – selecting the wood, roughing out the shape, curing for a year, sanding, finishing and polishing – for Ben to create an urn. Each one is unique.

Ben is particularly proud of the urns because he believes he's providing a needed service. He wants to help people keep their funeral costs reasonable, yet not have to cut back on quality or beauty. He sells his urns to the public at the wholesale price of \$275, plus shipping.

“I don't know of any place in Nova Scotia where you can buy an urn of this quality,” he says.

Ben also turns gallery-quality bowls and vases.

Inklings in Wood
Ben McLellan

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