CONTENTS

Conten Forewo		5 7
Part A	Conceptual framework	
1	Humans: their mourning, needs, conceptions Reiner Sörries	13
2	On the brink of death Euthanasia from the angle of law, morality and religion: a cross-cultural perspective Johannes (Hans) van der Ven	25
3	Eighteen ways to view a dead body Tony Walter	71
4	Words for the final hour On deathbed prayer in the Christian tradition Peter Nissen	85
Part B	National case studies	
5	Notes on the evolution of cemetery areas in Italy Luigi Bartolomei	107
6	Cremation movement in the Czech lands in the 20th century Zdeněk R. Nešpor	119
7	Shades of grey: sepulchral culture in East Germany between pluralization and standardization	
	Heléna Tóth	141



CONTENTS

8	Death and the state of religion in Denmark: belonging, believing and doing	165
	Anne Kjærsgaard Markussen	165
Part C	C Religious explorations	
9	On the border of death	
	Dimensions of Dutch mourning rituals	
	Thomas Quartier	191
10	Pastors and relatives	
	Enacting Protestant and Catholic funeral liturgies in the	
	Netherlands	
	Brenda Mathijssen	213
11	'Over my dead Buddha!'	
	Death and Buddhism	
	Paul van der Velde	239
12	Lived eschatology: Muslim views on life and death	
	Preliminary practices	
	Claudia Venhorst	259