

The diploma thesis presents the personal experience of homeless people who have had someone close to them die while living on the streets. It introduces us to their ways of living on the streets, their relationship with their loved ones and the circumstances of their deaths. It reflects on what changed in their lives after the death of their loved one and whether their loved ones had the opportunity to mend their relationships, put things in order and fulfil their wishes before their death. The theoretical part defines basic concepts related to homelessness and concepts related to dying. The practical part contains transcripts of interviews with homeless people who have been in this situation. The final part analyses the interviews. It summarizes that homeless people did not have the opportunity to arrange their affairs before they died, due to the fact that their deaths were quick and unexpected. Their social situation prevented them from doing so and they were not aware of any available services. Interviews show that they expressed a wish to meet their loved ones and try to mend relations with them, which they did not manage to do. Neither their partner nor their friends had the opportunity to say goodbye at the funeral and they were unable to find out if and how the funeral took place. The survivors were left with unanswered questions: was there anything I could have done to avert the death? Should I have insisted on finding out the cause of death?