

CANDY BAR BINGE KILLS TUBBY TEEN

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The most terrifying story ever!

DEAD MAN WAKES IN CREMATORIUM

'Dead' man's screams save him from fiery fate

Three days after he was pronounced dead, wealthy horse breeder Miguel de Cordoba's body inched its way into a crematorium oven. But as the flames licked at his feet, the impossible happened — the "corpse" came back to life!

As acrid smoke curled from his bare feet, the 62-year-old "dead man" suddenly sat bolt upright on the iron slab that was to have held his ashes. The man's blood-curdling scream of agony filled the small crematorium chamber.

Miguel de Cordoba was not dead. He was alive!

One of the two crematorium attendants guiding Cordoba's body into the roaring flames collapsed in shock. But the other maintained his composure long enough to pull Cordoba to safety just as the slab slid into the roaring inferno.

But the sight of a corpse moaning and writhing in pain was too much for the attendant. Sobbing hysterically, he ran from the oven chamber in stark terror.

Cordoba's grieving wife and children, who only minutes before had said their final prayers before his open casket, were just leaving the crematorium complex on the outskirts of Mexico City when the attendant ran screaming into the street.

The family raced back inside the complex and into the oven chamber. There they found Cordoba sitting on the floor, moaning in pain.

Overcoming their initial shock, the family quickly bundled Cordoba in a sheet and rushed him to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital. There, doctors treated the third-degree burns on his feet.

In a bizarre twist of fate, it was the same hospital where Cordoba had been pronounced dead — the ap-

Church red-faced

STOP THE CREMATION!

parent victim of a fatal stroke. "This is truly the most terrifying event I have ever witnessed," said Dr. Arturo Fernandez, the physician who had signed Cordoba's death certificate.

"It is absolutely unbelievable that such a tragic error could have been made.

"All the indications were that death had come.

"The monitors indicated no brain waves, no pulse, no respiration — noth-

ing. All of his vital life signs were gone.

"The only possible explanation is that the patient had gone into an incredibly deep coma. So deep, in fact, that not even brain waves could be detected.

"For all intents and purposes, Mr. Cordoba was dead.

"But when the flames scorched his feet, the shock and the pain must have triggered a mental reaction that jolted him out of the coma.

"His desire to be cremated actually

saved his life. If he had been buried, he surely would never have recovered. At least, if he had awakened from the coma, no one would have known it."

Cordoba, whose exquisite horses can be found in the stables of the world's leading champion equestrians, remained in the hospital for three weeks before he was allowed to return to his ranch in northern Mexico.

He is reported to be "very ill, but is expected to make a slow recovery."

— MICKEY MCGUIRE

Newspaper turns Cupid

SMOOCHING Eve Kelly and her romeo Robert Easson were reunited with the help of a bighearted newspaper reporter.

