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Death before discourse

PUBLIC speaking only narrowly trails death on a list of our greatest fears, a survey suggests.

An online survey found 27 per cent of Australians feared death more than public speaking, compared with 23 per cent who ranked public speaking as their No. 1 fear.

The Newspan study, for ReasonToSpeak.com, puts to bed claims that people are more fearful of delivering a eulogy than they are of going to their final resting place.

Spiders, heights and confined spaces rounded out our biggest fears.