Treating the representations of the three jewel's body, speech, and mind with respect and veneration creates a tremendous amount of merit. Please keep them off the ground and if you need to dispose of them please do so respectfully.
THE OUTER, INNER, AND SECRET REFUGE OF MAHASIDDHA THANGTONG GYALPO

Ma namkha tang nyampé semchen tamché
I and all the mother sentient beings, equal to space—

Lama sangyé rinpo chéla chapsu chi’o
Take refuge in the Guru who is the precious Buddha.

Sangyé chötang gendun namla chapsu chi’o
We take refuge in the Buddha, Dharma, and the assemblies of the Sangha.

Lama yidam khandro sumla chapsu chi’o
We take refuge in the three [roots]—Lama, Yidam, and Dakini.

Rangsem tongsal chökyi kula chapsu chi’o
We take refuge in our own mind, which is the luminous, empty dharma-kaya.

When you take refuge in the three jewels with devotion on behalf of someone who's died, the three jewels are immediately going to be there and see the whole situation clearly, since you're making that connection. Where can the deceased escape from the broad view of the three jewels? Their compassion, blessings, and guidance will be immediately there. Even though the dead don't know how to make that connection, if you make it on their behalf, they immediately make the connection as well. Therefore I think doing the practice of refuge, reciting the refuge over and over for the deceased, is very powerful, especially during the first forty-nine days. The prayer we should do is Avalokiteshvara's refuge prayer, called The Outer, Inner, and Secret Refuge Practice of the Mahasiddha Thangtong Gyalpo. This prayer is very helpful. I do it all the time, day and night, whenever there's a need. It was given directly to Thangtong Gyalpo's teacher by Avalokiteshvara himself for Thangtong Gyalpo to spread, and later he received it from his teacher and spread it. It has been one of the most powerful refuge prayers of all. I've given it to a few people to do it, to transform their life circumstances and different difficulties and patterns, and it seems like it really has worked wonderfully.

- Venerable Dzigar Kongtrül Rinpoche