

Thomas Edison's Life Units

An Article by Neal Bardell for [Ghost Science](#)

Towards the end of Thomas Edison's (1847 – 1931) long career, he started work on a device to communicate with the soul. As Edison was born during the the hight of the [spiritualism movement](#), he would have been well acquainted with the movement and aware of the many mediums claiming to be able to contact long departed spirits.

According to Edison, all life, be it humans or other live creatures, was made up of microscopic 'life units'. He believed that these life units had memory and as such, if the life units were to remain strong enough after death perhaps a person's personality could survive intact. However Edison made it clear that he didn't think that survival of an actual personality had been proved.

If the life units were not strong enough to retain a persons personality, then Edison believed that they would disperse and form new life.

Edison made many claims about his life units theory, some of which state that there is a fixed quantity of these life units and the number can never be increased or decreased and that they are totally indestructible.

Edison worked for many years to create a piece of scientific apparatus that would detect these life units and worked on the presumption that the personality did indeed survive after bodily death. The desire to build such a device was due to the fact that he did not believe the mediums of his day and concluded that he would be the one to build it.

Sadly, Edison's device died with him in 1931 and his theory was never proved. Do you think that if he had a little more time he may have been able to prove his theory? Why not come and have your say in the [Ghost Science Forums](#).