



*Everything you
need to know
about funerals*

Funerals made simple Your guide to funeral products and services

Visit www.funeralwise.com for more information

Funerals made simple: A quick reference to funeral services and merchandise

Funeral Director services

Funeral Director services and staff are usually provided by a funeral home (also known as a mortuary).

Basic services

Basic services that incur a standard minimum fee include:

- Staff on-call 24/7
- Conferences with family
- Scheduling of the funeral
- Preparation and filing of the required permits
- Recording vital information about the deceased
- Preparation and placement of obituaries
- Overhead charge for maintenance of funeral home facilities.

Additional services

Services charged for separately include:

- Transportation of deceased
- Care and preparation of the body
- Embalming or refrigerated shelter
- Use of facilities (such as chapels)
- Use of equipment (including vehicles)
- Staff to conduct all funeral services
- Memorial Package: guest register, note cards, prayer cards, etc.

Third-party services

Funeral directors or staff will procure items such as:

- Obituary notices
- Death certificates
- Clergy honorarium
- Flowers.

Cemetery property & services

Grave spaces (burial plots)

- One casket per grave space
- Optional additional burials in a space, e.g., a family member's ashes.

Lawn crypts

- Ground burial spaces formed by concrete enclosures pre-set in the ground
- Eliminates the need for a traditional burial vault
- May be multiple levels deep.

Crypts

- Concrete enclosures for entombment of one casket per crypt space
- Mausoleums are buildings that house numerous crypts accessible either inside or outside
- Garden Crypts are an outdoor bank of crypts.

Niche spaces

- Small crypt-like spaces for entombment of urns
- Mausoleums generally include niches
- A Columbarium is an outdoor bank of niches.

Cemetery services

- Interment and entombment services — opening and closing of grave spaces, crypts, and niches
- Installation of burial vaults
- Installation of grave markers
- Placement of flowers and grave decorations
- Perpetual maintenance of cemetery grounds and facilities.

Funeral merchandise

Caskets: available in a wide variety of styles, materials & prices

- Wood – hardwoods such as mahogany, cherry, oak
- Metal – bronze, copper, stainless and carbon steel
- Less expensive models – wood veneers and cloth-covered fiber board
- Cremation caskets are wood caskets without metal components that are specially designed for cremation
- Rental caskets have removable interior trays enabling the casket to be re-used. Usually for use in funeral services that will be followed by cremation.

Burial vaults (outer burial containers): receptacles placed in grave spaces that house caskets

- Generally required by cemeteries to support the soil
- Not required for mausoleum crypts or lawn crypts
- Most vaults are made of concrete; more expensive models are lined inside and outside with plastic and/or metals such as steel, copper or bronze.

Urns: receptacles for holding ashes resulting from cremation

- Urns come in a wide variety of styles and materials including hardwood, metals, marble, ceramic, etc.
- Mini-urns are smaller containers to hold a portion of the ashes enabling them to be shared among family members; some come in the form of jewelry.

Grave markers: generally made of stone such as granite or marble and may have a bronze faceplate set on a stone base

- Memorials lie flush to the ground; the term "memorial park" refers to cemeteries that only allow flush memorials
- Monuments sit upright and vary in size and shape.

Where to buy merchandise

- Caskets — from funeral homes, certain retailers and web-based sellers. Some cemeteries also sell caskets but most do not.
- Burial vaults — from funeral homes and cemeteries.
- Urns — from funeral homes, cemeteries, certain retailers and web-based sellers.
- Grave markers — cemeteries and monument retailers. Some funeral homes sell grave markers but most do not.

Funerals made simple: A quick reference to funeral options

| Necessary products and services | Your preferred type of funeral | | | | | | | | Descriptions | |
|--|---|----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|----------|-----------|------------------|--------------|---|
| | Burial or Entombment | | | | Cremation | | | | | |
| | Traditional | Memorial | Graveside | Direct burial | Traditional | Memorial | Graveside | Direct cremation | | |
| Funeral Director services and staff: | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Initial transportation of deceased to funeral home | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | <p>Traditional A visitation / viewing precedes the funeral service</p> <p>The funeral service is held in a chapel with the casket present</p> <p>A procession to the cemetery follows the service.</p> <p>Memorial No visitation or viewing</p> <p>The funeral service is held in a chapel without the casket</p> <p>Often is held sometime after burial or cremation.</p> <p>Graveside The funeral service is held in the cemetery at graveside</p> <p>Burial is part of the service or immediately following.</p> <p>Direct burial/cremation No funeral services are conducted</p> <p>The deceased is immediately buried or cremated.</p> |
| • Basic services of funeral director and staff | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| • Care and preparation of the deceased; casketing | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | |
| • Embalming (or refrigeration) | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | | | |
| • Facilities, equipment and staff for visitation | ■ | | | | ■ | | | | | |
| • Facilities, equipment and staff for the service | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| • Hearse and Lead car for procession to cemetery | ■ | | | | ■ | | | | | |
| • No procession: transport casket to cemetery | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| Cemetery property and services: | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Grave space or mausoleum crypt | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | |
| • Niche space for urn | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| • Opening and closing of grave / crypt / niche | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| • None — ashes returned to family | | | | | | | | | ■ | |
| Funeral merchandise: | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Casket (i.e., wood, metal) | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | |
| • Cremation casket or rental casket | | | | | ■ | | | | | |
| • Basic cremation container (i.e., cardboard) | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| • Burial vault | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | |
| • Grave marker | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | |
| • Urn or scattering container for ashes | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| • Memorial package (register book, prayer cards, etc.) | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| Other items: | | | | | | | | | | |
| • Obituary notices; death certificates | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| • Clergy honorarium | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| • Flowers | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | |
| Relative cost of your funeral | \$\$\$\$ | \$\$\$ | \$\$\$ | \$ | \$\$\$ | \$\$ | \$\$ | \$ | | |
| Find out what your funeral will cost: | <p>Go to http://planning.funeralwise.com to try our FREE funeral planner. You'll be surprised how QUICK and EASY it is to plan the Funeralwise way!</p> | | | | | | | | | |



Visit www.funeralwise.com for more information.

©2009 Funeralwise, L.L.C. All Rights Reserved.