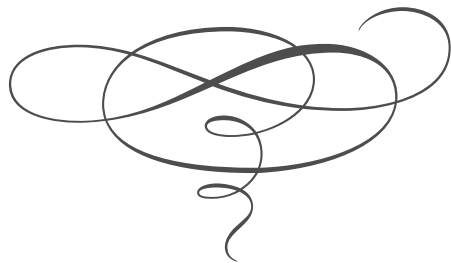


# Burial Ceremonies Honoring a Life



# *You have one opportunity*

Our desire is that you'll choose to honor your loved one in a way that allows you to have peace-of-mind years from now. Peace-of-mind that comes from knowing you did the best you could to honor their life. We know creating a ceremony that calls together the hearts and minds of all who loved them is a gift to everyone involved...a gift of memories, a gift of healing...a gift of a lifetime.

When your loved one has chosen to be buried, the ceremonies you design usually revolve around the casket being present. Traditions can be followed where there is a viewing and then a funeral service in a church or our funeral home's chapel. You have a variety of options to create a customized service to accommodate your family's wishes.



*At a time of death, many people can feel overwhelmed. Know that this is normal and many others have felt this way too. This guide was prepared to assist you with the many questions you may have. Please, never feel that any question is too trivial or be embarrassed about not knowing the procedure. You are not alone, that is why we are here - to help guide you through the process.*

## *What happens when I die?*

When a person dies, the natural breakdown process of the body begins immediately. This process is called decomposition. Many people have the impression that if they choose cremation that embalming is not necessary. Although there is no legal requirement for embalming, it is necessary for public viewing of the deceased and (or) to extend the viewing time privately for family members under the best possible circumstances.

## *What does embalming do?*

Embalming slows the decomposition process; sanitizes, disinfects and preserves the deceased. Embalming can also enhance the appearance of the deceased disfigured by traumatic death or prolonged illness. Without embalming, the natural process of decomposition continues with every hour that passes following death. The choice to allow embalming, bathing and dressing the deceased by our professional staff is another opportunity for you to continue to give respect and care to your loved one and provide the setting for a dignified viewing opportunity.

*Embalming makes it possible to lengthen the available time between death and cremation/burial.*

Embalming is a very important professional service that will be completed by our staff of licensed embalmers. Our professionally trained and licensed staff is respectful and skillful in the art of embalming and the total preparation of your loved one.



## *If you decline embalming . . .*



Embalming is not required by law. However when someone dies, the process of decomposition begins immediately. Embalming is the only way to effectively preserve the body of the deceased.

With all due respect to the deceased, the family members, and the public, viewing of a deceased person that is NOT embalmed should take place within 24 hours. Conditions of the deceased, including but not limited to injury from trauma, autopsy, tissue donation, swelling, discoloration, etc., may shorten this viewing period and may even accelerate decomposition.

As time passes, the natural process of decomposition continues and the condition of the deceased is affected by the time that has elapsed since death and the circumstances of the death.

You may certainly view the deceased. If you request viewing of a deceased person that is NOT embalmed after a 24 hour period, it is the policy of the funeral home that this takes place in our meditation chapel. You would not physically be in the same room or have physical contact with the deceased. You would be able to view the deceased through a glass window. Timing and body conditions make it impractical for anyone to have safe direct physical contact with a deceased person that is NOT embalmed.

This is NOT to inconvenience you when paying your final respects. This is simply the most realistic and best manner for you to view the deceased you choose NOT to embalm.

Without embalming we cannot facilitate the best possible appearance, disinfect or preserve the deceased. This policy is to provide the families we serve with the best viewing experience should you choose to decline embalming of the deceased.

# *Funeral Procession Choices*

*We offer white Cadillac hearses and limousines*



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*Other options available at no charge to you  
are these vintage vehicles.*

*1968 Navy Cadillac Hearse*



*1937 Cadillac Hearse*



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*Optional hearse choices include  
motorcycle hearse and black or white  
horse drawn carriages.*

*Available upon request and at  
the provider's current cost.*



## *What is a cemetery setup and why do we need it?*

A cemetery setup is the equipment used to safely secure and handle burial vaults and caskets at the graveside to easily facilitate services at the graveside and complete the burial process following services.

A canopy and chairs are usually placed at the grave for shelter in the weather and comfort for the family members while at the graveside service.



## *What is a vault and why do I need one?*

A vault is an outer burial container that casketed remains are placed in for ground burial. Certain cemeteries require an outer burial container and therefore one must be used in that cemetery. For cemeteries that do not require one, you have the option of choosing not to use one. Reasons that one would choose to use an outer burial container would include protection of the casket and remains over an extended time period, ground conditions and eventual sinking of the grave over time.

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## *Are flowers required?*

No. Flowers are purchased at the discretion of the family. For burial services most families do choose to purchase a spray of flowers for the casket. Other flowers are usually sent by friends and extended family members. The type of services you choose may dictate what if any flowers you may want to purchase.



## *How do I arrange for Military honors?*

The funeral home will help you arrange Military honors. You **MUST** provide Honorable Discharge documentation. This along with a request for honors must be sent in **at least 48 hours in advance of the service** to the appropriate branch of service for funeral honors at which time honors will be scheduled.

## *How do I arrange for burial at a State or National Veterans Cemetery?*

Once eligibility for burial there has been established, the funeral director will call the cemetery and submit information along with Honorable Discharge information. Each cemetery has scheduling policies and hours that will apply to their particular location.

**Please note** for Arlington National Cemetery it is not uncommon for this scheduling process to take 3-6 months. Although this seems like a long time to wait, please understand that there are an extremely high number of requests for burial and honors there. They are handled in the order they are received regardless of the rank or the branch of service of deceased.



## *What clothing is appropriate for the deceased?*

Burial clothing is not necessarily a suit and tie for men or a Sunday dress for ladies. However, it should be modest in that it is preferred that garments be long sleeved and have a higher neckline and fit appropriately. Garments that are tight, have low cut necklines, sheer or see-through sleeves are typically not considered appropriate for burial. Keep in mind that outer garments are made to be worn with appropriate undergarments. Please provide underclothing as typically worn with the chosen outer garments and socks or stockings.

Shoes are not required as they are typically not seen, but can be used. Belts are not required unless the lack of one would detract from the overall appearance.

Jewelry is optional and may be used, and can either be buried with the deceased or returned to the family following services.



# *Catering & Reception Services*

*A time to share - a place to come together*

Shared meals bring families and friends together.

Traditional or contemporary, a reception with your service allows family and friends to continue spending time together sharing memories.

With our catered reception services we do all the work. You won't need to find an outside caterer, schedule more appointments, plan your menu or find time to shop for food and beverages for your guests. We can arrange it all for you. From simple beverage service with snacks or light appetizers to casual or formal full meals.





## *Aftercare Services*

Service to our families does not end the day of the funeral. Our staff is committed to continuing to meet the needs of our families.

The grief that families cope with after the death of a loved one can sometimes seem unbearable. We provide personal services to the surviving spouse, families and friends which will comfort and assist them after their loss.

All families served by Boles Funeral Home are eligible to participate in our services. We offer a very active and comprehensive Aftercare Program.

Our Services include:

- Grief Materials
- Bi-monthly luncheons held the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month
- Sponsored trips
- Community events
- Personal Home Visit
- Friday night Dinner Club

*You are cordially invited to join us for Lunch!*

The luncheon is for widows and widowers, who do not wish to dine alone, do not want to cook, would like the company of others, or just need to get out of the house. Please come and enjoy a good meal and the companionship of others.....



### *A Personal Home Visit*

from our Aftercare Representative

They will contact you just to see how you are doing and schedule an appointment to bring you our grief support material and information about our program.

If you don't want a visit, there is no pressure. The opportunity to join is always available.

*Personal visits provided to those who chose Limited or Expanded Cremation Services by request only.*

## *What are the basic Professional Services of the Funeral Director and our staff ?*

The fee for our overhead and provision of professional services including:

- Arrangement conference with family/responsible parties
- Arrangement of funeral, preparation and filing of necessary authorizations and permits, recording vital statistics, preparation and placement of local obituary notices
- Coordination with those providing other portions of the funeral (for example: cemetery, ceremony, vault companies, and others required.)

## *Payment Terms*

All services, merchandise, and cash advances will be due and payable at the time funeral arrangements are completed. Services cannot be scheduled without payment.

### *Accepted methods of payment*

Option 1: Confirmed pre-paid Funeral Contract

Option 2: Cash or Check

Option 3: Credit Card

We accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express

Option 4: Insurance Assignment

- Valid life insurance verified by our staff and assigned DIRECTLY to the funeral home.
- If insurance is your ONLY means of payment services cannot be scheduled until the insurance can be verified, the assignment to the funeral home completed and claim forms are secured.
- If the insurance policy is not enough to pay the complete cost of funeral another method must pay the balance.

*As a courtesy we handle all of the insurance claims process at NO CHARGE to you.*

**NOTE:** Insurance Assignments WILL NOT be accepted in Medical Examiner cases where the cause of death on the Death Certificate is listed as Pending.

### *Methods of payment not accepted:*

1) ESTATES: If an estate will be established, you are still responsible for the payment of the funeral expenses at the time the arrangements are completed.

You are entitled to petition the estate for reimbursement for the payment of funeral expenses.

We are unable to extend credit terms to estates since neither a time frame for administration of bills and what funds are available can be guaranteed.

2) MONTHLY PAYMENTS: We are unable to extend credit terms for payment of services. Family members, friends or bank credit should be sought out as a resource to pay for the funeral expenses if you need to make payments.

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**CASH ADVANCES:** If we have assisted you with any cash advance items: (for example: Cemetery Charges, Newspapers, Honorariums, Flowers, etc.) you must make payment of such at the time of arrangements, prior to the funeral home placing any orders on your behalf.





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