

# Funeral Planning

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## Things to Decide (Discussion Starters):

- ☼ Do you want to be cremated or buried?
- ☼ If cremated, what do you want done with your ashes?
- ☼ Where do you want your ashes or body buried (assuming you want your ashes buried)?
- ☼ What do you want for a casket or urn?
- ☼ Do you want a religious service, secular service, no service – or do you have something else in mind (wake)?
- ☼ Do you want to have pictures shown?
- ☼ Who needs to be notified of your death? (Friends, relatives, executor, lawyer, financial institutions, etc. – include contact information)
- ☼ What information do you want the obituary to include? (Biography, parents' names, pre-deceased by, survived by, memorial donations, etc.)

Talk to your family – the sooner the better – about your funeral wishes or plans, or tell them where you have them written down. You can't be sure they will find your written instructions in time if they don't know where to look.

Don't pre-pay for a funeral unless you know you can get your money back if you move or change your mind, or if the funeral home goes out of business.