

Roseleigh Funeral Home

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Most people don't know exactly what services Funeral Undertakers render to the public. We at **Roseleigh Funeral Home** are committed in helping you become informed and knowledgeable in advance of your need, so that you may make wise and meaningful choices regarding Funeral Services.

This advice is free and without obligation. We shall give you some basic guidelines as to what to do when a death occurs in your family.

The best way to protect yourself is to be an informed consumer. While prices may vary greatly from Funeral Undertaker to Funeral Undertaker, the most important factor to consider is how comfortable you feel with the Funeral Director.

You are placing a great deal of trust in that person to make sure your wishes are fulfilled. If you do not feel comfortable with your first choice, call another Funeral Director.

Preplanning gives you the opportunity to compare several Funeral Directors, do not stop looking until you find the one that meets your needs.

Frequently Asked Questions...

What do Funeral Directors do?

Funeral Directors are caregivers and administrators.

They make arrangements for transportation of the deceased, complete all paperwork and implement the choices made by the family regarding the funeral and final disposition of the deceased.

Funeral Directors are listeners, advisors and supporters.

They have experience in assisting the bereaved in coping with death. Funeral Directors are trained to answer questions about grief, recognize when a person is having a difficulty coping and recommend sources of professional help.

Why are Funerals so expensive?

When compared to other major life cycle events, like births and weddings, funerals are not expensive. A wedding costs at least three times as much, but because it is a happy event, wedding costs are rarely criticized.

A funeral undertaking business is a 24hour, labour intensive business; with extensive facilities (viewing rooms, hearses etc) these expenses must be a factor into the cost of a funeral.

Moreover, the cost of a funeral includes not only merchandise, like coffins, but the services of a Funeral Director, in making the arrangements; filing appropriate forms; dealing with doctors, ministers, florists, newspapers and others; and seeing to all the necessary details.

Do Funeral Directors take advantage of the bereaved?

Funeral Directors are caring individuals who help people deal with a very stressful time. They serve the same family 80% of the time and many have spent most of their lives in the same community. If they took advantage of the bereaved families they would not stay in business. The fact that the average Funeral Undertaker has been in business over 30 years shows that most Funeral Directors respect the wishes of the bereaved families.

What should I do if death occurs in the middle of the night or on a weekend?

We are available 24 hours a day. 7 days a week.

Will someone come right away?

If you request immediate assistance, yes. If the family wishes to spend a short time

with the deceased to say good-bye, it is acceptable. We will come when your time is right.

What to do when death occurs?

1. Make an appointment with the Funeral Undertaker. They will help co ordinate arrangements with the cemetery or crematorium, doctors and other.
2. Contact your Minister. Decide on a time and place of the funeral or memorial service. This can be done at the Funeral Undertaker.
3. The Undertaker will assist you in determining the number of copies of the death certificates you will be needing and can assist you in obtaining them for you. Some information needed to complete vital statistic requirements:
 - Birth date
 - Birth place
 - Marital status
 - Place of death
 - Date of death
 - Last address
 - Occupation
 - Particulars of next-of-kin
4. Make a list of immediate family, close friends and business colleagues.
 - Notify each by phone.

5. Gather obituary information, including:

- Age
- Place of birth
- Cause of death
- Occupation
- Education
- List of survivors in immediate family
- Outstanding work
- Memberships held.

6. Consider special needs of the household, such as cleaning etc, which might be done by close friends.

7. Co ordinate the supplying of food for the next several days.

8. Arrange for family members or close friends to take turns answering the door or phone, keeping careful records of all calls.

9. Arrange child care if necessary.

10. Select pallbearers and notify the undertaker.

- Avoid anyone with heart or back problems (or make them honorary pallbearers)

11. Notify insurance companies.

12. Locate the will and notify lawyer and executor.

13. If deceased was living alone, notify utilities and landlord and inform the post office where to send mail.

14. Check promptly on all debts and installment payments, including credit cards. If there is to be a delay in meeting payments, consult with creditors and ask for more time before payments are due.

In conclusion:

We at **Roseleigh Funeral Home** wish to thank you for the opportunity given to submit this information.

We are very well established and therefore invite anyone who needs more information in regards to Funeral, Cremation or Insurance to contact us.

Kind regards.

Andre van Wyk
Funeral Director

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