

Hey! Mr. Funeral Director

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW AS AN END-OF-LIFE CAREGIVER, SINCE NOBODY WANTS TO ASK THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR.



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I am going to ask everyone but the person who knows the answer

Fact vs. someone's opinion

Consultations with a funeral home are "generally" free

Most people talk about what they would do personally

Disappointment when it is not how they wished it to be

You have an opportunity to say goodbye, take it



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What service do I want?

First Question, who wants to see.....

- Will embalming be necessary?

Wishes of the survivors vs. the wishes of the deceased

How do I ensure I receive the services I want to have when I pass away

What type of final disposition provider will fit my needs?



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Blair A. Overton, Who is this guy?

4th Generation Iowa Funeral Director

Raised in Traer on the second story of the funeral home.

Funeral home and furniture store

Educated at the University of Iowa and New England Institute near Boston, Massachusetts

30 years of experience with Funeral Homes, Cemeteries and Cremation Societies.



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What funeral directors do.

What our license directs us to do

- Take custody of deceased individuals
- Protect the public
- Accurately record vital statistics
- Properly conduct final disposition
- Do you have to use a funeral director?



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Embalming

Why do we do it?

- Restoration of deceased
- Public health

When is it required?

- Public vs. private viewing
- Infectious disease
- The battle between visitation and private viewing



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Funeral Home or Cremation Society

Determining which provides the best option for the family

Different price structure

Level of service provided is different

- Know the differences

Response times vary

AVOID THE INTERNET

- Make sure the contact section is there and has a local contact

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Cremation or Traditional Burial

Both allow for Memorialization

Many reasons for selecting one over the other

- Family tradition, cost, religious or cultural

The importance of a final resting place

- Scattering, good idea or bad?

The importance of a social or religious gathering

The positive outcome of a viewing

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Cost is always part of the equation

The greedy funeral director, fact or fiction?

Isn't there some agency that can pay for this?

I must pay today?

Insurance: The good, the bad and the ugly.

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Is Pre-paying a good idea (pre-need)

In a word "YES"

Financial positives

- The value of a guaranteed contract
- Payment plans are available prior to death
- Mechanisms in place to protect the asset from Title 19

Psychological positives

- Survivors do not have to find funds at a difficult time
- Relief of stress during an already emotional time
- Making decisions with a clear mind
- Knowing the wishes of the deceased

Removes these obstacles.

- I have to pay today?
- Insurance: The good, the bad and the ugly.

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Declaration of Designee

Have a copy of this document handy.

Natural extension of the POA.

It is very easy to execute.

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The ever-present risk of litigation

Most current cases revolve around cremation.

Irreversible act.

The importance of the cremation authorization.

- Disclose what the process of cremation is
- Who has authority
- Who can take possession of the cremated remains
- Human error is always present, the importance is demonstrating you are not negligent.

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Contact information

Blair A. Overton, Owner & Funeral Director

- 515-278-4633 or cell 515-681-5250
- Blair@IowaFuneralPlanning.com

