

## Pre-Planning a Funeral Basics

1. Choose one person that will facilitate and organize your funeral.
2. Obtain funeral insurance and / or open a bank account for this purpose.
3. Decide what documentation is necessary and properly secure and store documents. Write down all of the following choices and include them with the documentation.
4. Inform a loved one or “agent” where all of the important documents are located, especially your will and insurance policies. Grant this person full access to the documents, which could be in a safe deposit box, or a home safe, or at your attorney’s office.
5. Choose a Funeral Home (after cost comparison)
6. Choose where you wish to be buried.
  - \*in your current town or your hometown
  - \*in a church / temple cemetery or a commercial cemetery or veteran’s cemetery
7. Buy / secure a burial plot.
8. Compile a contact list of people that need to be notified of your passing.
  - \*old military buddies, school friends, lodge & country club friends, family and friends living outside of the country, etc.
9. Choose the clothing that you wish to wear for the burial.
10. Choose the location to hold your service.
11. Decide who will speak, sing, and provide the eulogy at the service.
12. Choose if you want to receive flowers or have a donation to your favorite charity. Some people find the gifting of flowers to be wasteful.
13. Have your obituary written or at a minimum have the highlights of your life prepared and organized.
14. Choose a photo for your funeral program.