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ASSOCIATED CHAPELS IN
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Oakwood Funerals
Oakwood Funerals



ATTENDING
TO THE DETAILS OF
FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS



A New Standard of Service.
A Lifetime of Tradition

Oakwood Funerals is committed to giving its utmost to provide a superior level of care to every person who is touched by the occurrence of a death, irrespective of how closely or remotely they may be related to the one who has died. I am a third-generation member of a Western Australian family that has provided funeral services in each generation and I have many years of direct personal experience as a Funeral Director. It's a lifetime of tradition that I am proud to bring to Oakwood Funerals.

As you read through the literature you will see that there are many ways to personalise a funeral. A truly personal funeral is one that honours and dignifies the life of the one who has died; and it does so in every step, in every detail. It preserves the respect held by a father or son; a mother or daughter; a husband or wife; brother or sister; friend or neighbour - for only those people can know how

a life fully lived has affected them. Furthermore, it is a deep compassionate understanding of the grief; the unfamiliar inexplicable emotions that affect every person; and every person differently following the death of one who has lived in any way close to another.

Oakwood Funerals makes the biggest difference by attending to all the little details that can honour a person's life. I believe the Funeral Director at every funeral should be a gentle face that every mourner present can feel they know; one that helps them put their trust in the service, understanding and compassion of the funeral business caring for them at that time.

I sincerely hope that whenever there is a need for you to call a Funeral Director in your family, you will consider asking Oakwood Funerals to provide its best service.

Don Chipper
Managing Director

1/11/2003

Oakwood Funerals Pty Ltd and Don Chipper are
not part of or associated
with the Funeral Directors known as "Chippers"
and "Donald J Chipper & Son."

Oakwood Funerals established 1999

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BEING PREPARED

When a death occurs in a family, such are its timing and happening that it is impossible for family members to be prepared for it. It cannot be rehearsed. Neither can the important events that follow a death be scheduled in advance. But the effect of the surprise can be lessened to some degree by understanding exactly what medical, legal and funeral events take place following a death; and how funeral arrangements are entered into.

WHEN DEATH OCCURS

The first requirement following a death is for a doctor to conduct an examination and declare that life is extinct. When the person who has died has been under recent treatment by the family doctor, or in a public hospital or care centre, the attending doctor will normally be the one who certifies the time and cause of death.

If the death is accidental or sudden, the Coroner is then required to legally determine the cause of the death. The Coroner's duty is to investigate, and therefore determine the cause of any death which is not clearly due to natural causes. The Police Service carry out the duties which may, but not necessarily involve a post-mortem examination and an inquest.

AFTERLIFE CARE

Following the medical confirmation of death the deceased is placed into the care of the Funeral Director of your choice. The Funeral Director, in addition to providing all transportation to mortuary facilities, is required to accurately identify the person, provide all mortuary care and services and attend to all procedures; and obtain all documents leading to burial or cremation. We are on hand twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year to ensure that the family of any person who has died is given immediate attention; and the person who has passed away is treated with the highest level of respect and dignity.



ARRANGING A FUNERAL.

There are two occasions when you might arrange a funeral: when someone close to you has died and you need to make immediate arrangements, or when you make arrangements for your own funeral in advance - a popular commonsense part of financial planning today.

Your first step in either situation is to contact your Funeral Director to help you with your arrangements. This can be either in your own home or in one of our Funeral Homes - the choice is entirely up to you. Although there are a range of legal requirements in all funeral arrangements, every funeral is a very special and personal occasion.

THE NECESSARY ITEMS

To arrange a funeral, certain legal formalities have to be completed by the Funeral Director on your behalf. The following information about the person who has died is required in order for us to register the death with the Registrar General's Office.

- Full name
- Address (last place of residence)
- Occupation or former occupation
- Religion
- Date and place of birth
- How long he or she lived in Australia
- Father's full name and occupation if known
- Mother's full name, maiden name and occupation if known
- The date and place of any marriages that may have occurred, and full names of spouse(s) if known
- Full names and ages of any children of the deceased that may have been born, legally adopted, still born or deceased if known

To assist in recording these particulars, please use Oakwood Funeral's Personal Details form.



THE OPTIONAL ITEMS

Personalising your funeral arrangements means making choices about the service, the coffin or casket; whether it is a burial or cremation; where it will take place; and how the memory will be honoured.

When discussing your arrangements, you may like to consider some of the following options. You may have other ideas in mind. Please discuss them with us so we can ensure your needs are met in complete detail.

Please tick items required.

- Burial, or
 Cremation

You need first to choose whether the funeral is to be a burial or cremation and where it is to take place. Depending which cemetery is chosen, a burial may be in an existing family grave or a new grave, in a general area or a lawn area, or in a mausoleum. Cremation facilities are not available at all cemeteries. However, if you choose a cremation you can have the ashes placed in a memorial, transported elsewhere, or taken by a family member.

Location

We can arrange your funeral service - or any part of it - in practically any location in the Perth metropolitan area that is convenient to you. We can provide complete services throughout rural Western Australia or in any other Australian location. We can repatriate a person who has died while visiting Australia to their home country; or arrange the repatriation of an Australian who has died overseas.



Notes

Service

Our facilities and expertise allow us to cater for all religious and cultural rites. Your service can be held at a church, the cemetery, the crematorium, a chapel in our own Funeral Homes or any private or legal public place of your choosing.

Committal

The committal is the part of the service that can take place at the grave-side, church, crematorium or chapel. It is the final parting of the one who has died from those who remain. It can be as private as a single mourner, or a public occasion with friends and relatives in attendance. You can choose the type and style of the committal service.

Priest, Minister, or Celebrant

You can choose a Priest, Minister or Celebrant who is known to your family to officiate at the Funeral Service; or, if you wish, we can arrange someone suitable for you.

Coffin or

Casket

A wide range of coffins and caskets, presented in different finishes and styles is available. Coffins are tapered at the head and foot, and are wider at the shoulders, while caskets are rectangular. Handles, required for carrying, can be in gold, silver, other metals or wood. In the process of cremation the coffin or casket is cremated together with the body.



Notes

Cor tege (Hearse and Mourning Coach)

Oakwood Funerals provides the hearse to transport the deceased and limousines (seats seven) to transport the family. The cortege can leave from any of several Funeral Homes throughout the metropolitan area and travel to any of the metropolitan cemeteries. The procession can pass the home of the person who has died or any other landmark significant to the life that is being celebrated.

We are available to collect and return mourners from a given location or Funeral Home on the day of the funeral. We can supply any number of limousines you request.

Viewing

Although it is a personal choice, viewing allows an opportunity for family members to say a final farewell and may help them accept the reality of their loss more easily. It is an important step in the grief process. Family and friends can see the person in a different environment from the one in which they may have last seen them. This is a great relief to family and friends who may have last seen their loved one suffering from pain.

Presentation and Embalming

Embalming is only essential if the deceased is to be interred in a mausoleum, or transferred overseas or interstate. The paramedical procedure preserves the body by replacing the bodily fluids with antibacterial and preserving solutions.

Make up may be used to give the person who has died a natural look, so people viewing can see him or her as he or she might have appeared in life. Temporary preservation, a form of embalming, is recommended if there is to be a viewing.



Dress

How the deceased is dressed is entirely a personal choice. If a viewing is part of the service, then friends and family members appreciate seeing the person dressed as they would have been during his or her lifetime because it helps people come to terms with their loss. Alternatively, a shroud may be supplied by the Funeral Director if it is preferred.

Press announcements

It is impossible to personally reach everyone who may have an interest in the passing of a friend or somebody known to them. We can arrange press announcements to advise the death and funeral details on your behalf. Announcements include a Funeral Notice to advise when and where the funeral is to take place (or, in the event of a private funeral, a notice that the service has taken place); a Family Notice that identifies the person who has died to members of the public, and the public expression of the family's feelings at their loss.

Flowers

Floral tributes often say more than words can express. We can order flowers of your choice from florists who specialise in funeral arrangements. You may want to have special colours, shapes or designs, or single flowers family members and mourners can place during the service, or you may wish mourners to make a donation in lieu of flowers to a charity.



Music

Often cited as the language of love, the right choice of music at a Funeral Service can ensure the deepest feelings are expressed in the most beautiful way. You can play recordings that are special to the family or you may prefer a live performance. We are happy to assist in finding the right music or musicians for the occasion.

Involvement of family and friends

There is possibly no better way to assist family members and close friends come to terms with their bereavement than to involve them in the Funeral Service. Carrying or escorting the coffin, reading a eulogy, placing flowers, leading a song or telling an anecdote can mean a great deal to family and friends.

Eulogy

Having someone prepare and deliver a speech honouring the life of a loved one is another way of helping friends and family come to terms with their loss. A eulogy for the person who has died is usually prepared by someone who has been close to him or her throughout their life, such as a grandchild, son, daughter, brother, sister, mother, father or other family member; friend, relative or associate.

Pall Bearers

Family members or friends may be pall bearers acting as a guard of honour and carrying the coffin at the Funeral Service if they wish.



Notes

Symbolic gestures, Cultures & Farewells

Many traditions and gestures can be incorporated into the service to symbolise the passing of a loved one. Gestures may include releasing helium balloons or white doves at the graveside; or the use of coloured ribbons instead of lowering bands; or ceremonies involving food or flowers.

Our network of services includes people who have special knowledge of the customs of different ethnic and religious cultures. If you wish to pay respect to special customs please ask us to include them.

There are many ways you can say goodbye. Family members can spend a private moment with a loved one prior to the funeral, which may be at home, in a church or the Funeral Home. You may wish to have the coffin open during the service so that family and friends can include mementos, photos, flowers or letters in the coffin to say their personal goodbye.

Keepsakes

You may choose to keep something personal of your loved one, such as a lock of hair, or a handprint or footprint.

Displays and Tributes

Especially when one has contributed publically to his or her community in their lifetime, community members and organisations that have been involved may wish to pay tribute to that contribution. The internet also provides opportunities to create on-line memorials that allow people to pay tribute to a loved one.

Family histories can be displayed at the cemetery, in the Funeral Home, church or on the internet.



Notes

Recording the service

Whether for your personal or family record, or to help people who live elsewhere share the experience, your funeral service can be recorded on CD, audio tape, video or photographic ly. This provides an opportunity to create a lasting memory that can be revisited at special times.

Order of service

In order to help mourners follow the proceedings and take part in the service, you may wish to print the service in a pamphlet or booklet. It also provides a memento for family and friends to take home.

Mourner cards and/or Register

Cards are supplied to mourners who attend the service. They are collected after the service so you have a record of who attended and can express your gratitude directly. You can have thank-you cards printed or select from a range of existing stationery.

Memorials

Beautifully presented memorial books are available for you to keep as a special record of the service. It can include autographs of those who attended, floral tribute cards, copies of speeches and eulogies, family histories, recordings of the service, and photographs. You can arrange to have copies of the memorial book sent to friends and relatives who live elsewhere. We can create an on-line internet memorial page so people at remote locations can share in the memory of a loved one.

Notes

Catering

To relieve you of added burdens at a time when you are grieving, we offer a range of catering options at our Funeral Home, the cemetery, crematorium or a private home.

Returned Service Personnel

Special tributes can be arranged for funerals of returned service personnel, including the playing of the Last Post, either with a bugler or a recording; and the country's flag adorning the coffin.

Urns

To contain the ashes of the deceased, you can choose from a wide range of cremation urns in bronze, marble, timber, ceramic, cast acrylic and other special materials.

Grave markers

You may choose to have a temporary grave marker placed on the grave until a permanent headstone or memorial is in place.

Memorials and monuments

You can choose a permanent memorial for a grave or the ashes from a wide range of options including trees, rocks, garden plaques, niche walls, ground niches, full monuments and lawn monuments.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

Coming to terms with the death of a family member or close friend can be a difficult time for many people. Oakwood Funerals is part of a network that sponsors The Grief Recovery & Funeral Education Centre (GRAFEC). This service provides a wide range of support and counselling as well as access to a library of literature, audio and video resources that can help grieving family members come to terms with the circumstances surrounding the death of someone close.

PRE-PAYING YOUR FUNERAL

Pre-arranging your funeral is as commonsense in financial planning as superannuation and bequests. If you do it now, you will feel better knowing all your affairs are in order. And the financial burden that your family may otherwise have to bear at a time of great grief will no longer be there. Oakwood Funerals subscribes to Guardian Plan, an investment plan that pays for your funeral exactly as you want it arranged, whether it occurs days or decades after you make the arrangement. It is a safe, sound and sensible investment because you pay for the funeral arrangements you want at today's prices. And you can pay for it in up to 36 easy instalments.

Notes

To my family or executor,
I've completed this guide with the express purpose of indicating my preferences for my funeral arrangements and for Oakwood Funerals to carry them out.

Signed

Dated