

Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashiers, North Carolina

Preparing for one's burial, service, and other arrangements

August 20, 2020

Create a folder or notebook that has the following information

1. Which church will hold the service? (some people have two churches they attend)
 - time and date are negotiated with the church first, then the funeral director.
2. Is the burial itself at that church or another location? If another place, where? What documentation of purchase of a plot to you have?
 - Graveyard:
 - i. 10' x 10' plot is \$ 3,000.00* Casket Burial+ (restricted for two caskets)
 - ii. 5' x 2.5' plot \$ 1,000.00* Ash Burial (for two urns)
 - Memorial Garden: All plot \$ 600.00 Burial for two urns, including two bronze name plates.
 - Columbarium Niche 12"x12"x12" \$ 2,000.00 For interring one or two urns; does not include engraving of niche covering
3. Who will be the officiating clergy? (start with the rector, who can invite others)
4. Choice of funeral director. (Some have made prearrangements and prepayments; provide documentation)
5. Choice of casket or cremation
6. Type of casket or urn (wooden or metal or biodegradable or will ashes be placed directly into the ground...or scattered.)
7. If casket, which clothes would you like to be buried in?
8. Tombstone wording or engraving (if permitted by the graveyard or cemetery)

9. List your favorite flowers (which might be used if in season)
10. Obituary: who would you like to write this? Or have you made one, or have some ideas? Have a conversation with family members (and/or the writer) about this.
 - family history, like parents' names
 - you might list schools, fraternal organizations, military history, employers
 - volunteering history, hobbies, favorite places, civic organizations, clubs and other memberships
 - designate the picture for your obituary and/or the church eblast
11. Charitable contributions: often people say, "In lieu of flowers, the family request contributions to be made to _____."
 - so consider your church(es), like Good Shepherd or one of our endowment funds
 - other charities or organizations
 - you can designate 1-3 (or more) recipients; provide addresses or websites
12. Details of the service (outlined in the COGS guide as well)
 - lessons (2 or 3; Old Testament, New Testament, Gospel, Psalm)
 - Rite I or Rite II?
 - select readers for the lessons; clergy read the gospel
 - speakers
 - musical selections, including any special things, like bagpipes or flute or soloist
 - Communion or no communion?
 - ushers?
 - pall bearers and honorary pall bearers?
 - any special details?
 - any military honors?
13. Reception to follow. (List your wishes.)
14. Any special people to contact about the service? Provide their information
15. Other Documents from Good Shepherd
 - Memorial Service Guide
 - Guidelines for Graveyard, Memorial Garden, and Columbarium