

FUNERAL AND ESTATE PRE-PLANNING

Pre-planning your final estate, funeral and burial arrangements will bring a great deal of relief and peace of mind to you and your family. It ensures that your wishes are known and that your survivors are spared making last-minute decisions under stress and during a period of mourning.

What is pre-planning?

Pre-planning is making your cemetery and funeral arrangements prior to your death (which may include: legal documents (such as Medical and Durable Power of Attorney; Last Will and Testament; etc.). This allows your wishes to be known now in advance, thus eliminating an incredible burden on your loved ones during the very stressful and challenging hours after a death. Pre-planning is a profound and concrete sign of your love for surviving family members.

What are the benefits of pre-planning?

The most obvious benefits are that you will relieve your loved ones of the burden of making your funeral home, funeral liturgy and burial arrangements at a time of loss and grief—at times, wondering if their decision(s) are “right”. Your advance planning will give your family the peace of mind they need to feel comfortable that they are carrying out the decisions you wanted.

[Pre-planning also prevents survivors’ feeling pressured or time constrained to make decisions regarding final arrangements that can be extremely expensive. Remember: Funeral Homes are a business. Some (not all) like to sell things that are not needed (such as urn vaults). The costs of funeral services naturally escalate annually. By purchasing in advance, you are making wise decisions in advance of the time-of-need and are locking most item(s) in at today’s pricing.]

At what age should I consider preplanning cemetery and funeral arrangements?

Now or at any time in the near future. Adults of any age who are able to make their own decisions should have a plan. Like your will, it can be revised throughout your life as needs and circumstances change. In general, the earlier you preplan, the more options you have. In reality, your cemetery and funeral options will probably never cost less or the same than they do today.

In our culture, few families are comfortable discussing death, loss and pre-planning funeral arrangements. It’s normal. This is just one of those things in life however, that does not get easier as time goes on. Taking the first step now is the best way for you to get your plan in order.

Why should I choose to be buried in a Catholic cemetery?

First and foremost, Catholic cemeteries are a vital part of caring for and burying the bodies of the dead in blessed ground — it is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Since Catholic cemeteries are an extension of the ministry provided in our parish community, they are gathering places for remembrance, consolation and communal support. Choosing a Catholic cemetery as a final resting place is a statement of your faith belief that, even in death, the People of God await the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Catholic cemeteries give you a place where your loved ones can come to remember you and all generations past and future in peace and repose.

(SR: <http://www.catholic-cemeteries.org/preplanning.aspx>)

A GENERAL LIST OF LOCAL AREA FUNERAL HOMES

(listed first by geographical area and alphabetically—without any inferred preference over another)

Elizabeth and Parker Areas:

Parker Funeral Home and Crematory, LLC (& Elizabeth Funeral Home)

(Owner/Manager: Meredith Norton)

10325 S. Park Glenn Way

Parker, CO 80138

Office: (303) 841-4004

Fax: (303) 841-7683

Website: <https://www.pfh-co.com/>

Ponderosa Funeral Home

(Owner/Manager: Steve and Nancy Trevino)

10470 S. Progress Way

Parker, CO 80134

Office: (303) 841-2405

Fax: (303) 841-5665

Website: <https://www.ponderosavalleyfunerals.com/>

Castle Rock Area:

Castle Rock Funeral & Cremation Services

211 Fourth Street

Castle Rock, CO 80104

Office: (303) 379-4604

Fax: (303) 379-7618

Website: <http://www.castlerockfuneralandcremation.com/>

Olinger-Andrews-Caldwell-Gibson Chapel / Funeral Home

407 Jerry Street

Castle Rock, CO 80104

Office: (303) 688-3191

Fax: (303) 688-1032

Website: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/funeral-homes/castlerock-co/olinger-andrews-caldwell-gibson-chapel/4566>