

The Arrangements

There are many different ways to celebrate the life of your loved one—most common is a funeral. The funeral service is a way to bring caring people together—to lend support and to help each other through this difficult time. Nothing can fill the emptiness when a loved one is gone, but the healing begins sooner with the support of family and friends.

To assist you and your family in the planning process, Allen Mortuary has prepared this discussion guide, offering many of the options available to your family.

We encourage you to talk through these discussion topics in advance of meeting with your funeral counselor at Allen Mortuary. In addition, we encourage you to list any questions you may have for the funeral counselor at your upcoming appointment.

Where shall the service be located?

- Allen Mortuary Chapel Church/Synagogue Graveside Other

What are your preferences for the service?

- Pastor Priest Family Member/Friend Other

Contact name:

Contact phone number:

Will there be a rosary, vigil or evening service? Yes No

If yes, the desired location:

Officiant:

What are your preferences for disposition of your loved one's body?

- Burial Cremation

If there is a visitation period will the casket be:

- Open during visitation Closed during visitation



If you are selecting a casket for your loved one, what are your plans for your loved one's clothing and accessories?

- a. Is there jewelry that you would like your loved one to wear? Examples include wedding bands, eye glasses, etc.
- b. Shall those accessories be kept on for burial, or removed and returned to the family?

When/if meeting with a cemetery, you may be asked to make the following decisions:

- Ground Burial – plot location and purchase
- Mausoleum (most cemeteries require the body be embalmed if mausoleum utilized)
- Columbarium (for cremation)

Will the service include Casket Bearers?

If yes, Allen Mortuary recommends six Casket Bearers:

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Honorary Casket Bearers?

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

Is transportation needed for the family or the casket bearers on the day of the service? If yes, Allen Mortuary can provide limousines.

The Funeral / Memorial Service (Items to be discussed with your Pastor / Priest / Officiant)

Who will deliver your loved one's Eulogy?

Will people attending the service be invited to "share memories of your loved one"?

Will there be organizations invited to participate in the service (military, fraternal, etc.)?

- Name of organization:
- Contact person:
- Contact phone number:

If there is a casket, will it be:

- Open during the service Closed during the service

Will the family be seated in the family room during the service?

Will the casket bearers be seated with the family? Or, will they be ushered in traditionally and seated in the front row?

Will the family order flowers for the service? (Note: If requested, Allen Mortuary can provide a list of Turlock-area florists.)

When the service concludes, do you want the guests to be ushered out or depart on their own?

Following the service, where shall Allen Mortuary deliver the flowers?

- Cemetery:
- Home (provide address):
- Other (provided address):

Music and Tributes

More and more people today choose to personalize the funeral services they plan for their loved ones. A favorite song, a favorite gathering place, even a favorite activity can all become part of the service.

Your funeral counselor will listen and assist you in planning a loving tribute that captures the spirit of the person whose life you wish to honor. Feel free to bring to Allen Mortuary any photos, music or memorabilia so that you and your funeral director can discuss how you would like your loved one to be remembered.

Is music desired for the service? If yes, will the music be live or recorded?

If live music is preferred, do you need Allen Mortuary to arrange for:

- Organist
- Pianist
- Vocalist
- Other

Other Considerations

Will there be a gathering after the service? If so, where will it be located?

Will there be catering/food service for the gathering?

