



GREGORY  
& CARR  
FUNERALS

TRADITIONAL FUNERALS

*Burial or Cremation*



*"They say such nice things about people at their funerals that it makes me sad to realize that I'm going to miss mine by just a few days."*

Garrison Keillor (1942 - )

## *Contents*

- 3 Burial or cremation - a personal choice
- 4 Choosing burial
- 5 Choosing cremation



## BURIAL OR CREMATION

# *a Personal Choice*



The choice between burial and cremation is a very personal one. Only you know what you want and once you've decided, we'll know what to do. We can provide information about the choices available and help you make the necessary arrangements.



### Factors to consider

**1. Religious and cultural considerations** - Cremation is allowed by most Christian denominations including the Roman Catholic Church and is the normal choice of Sikhs, Hindus and Parsees. However Orthodox, Muslims, and some other religions forbid it.

**2. Location** - While a burial is carried out in a designated area (cemetery), there are no major restrictions on where cremated remains (often called the ashes) are placed.

**3. Price** - Generally, cremation costs less than a burial. With a burial, you will also need to consider the cost of purchasing a gravesite and headstone or other memorialisation.

### Making your wishes known

Many people express their preference for burial or cremation before they die. If your loved ones know your wishes, we can arrange the funeral accordingly.

For burial, we need to know if a new grave is required, or if there is an existing family grave.

If you have chosen cremation, your family will need to consider what will happen with the cremated remains. It is important that clear written instructions are given to the person who will be responsible for your funeral.

### Choosing the type of funeral service

Your decision to be cremated or buried may be influenced by the funeral service you choose. There are many alternatives to consider when choosing the type of funeral service.

### Type of funeral services

- A service and committal in a church or our chapel.
- A service held in a church or our chapel followed by a procession or cortege to cemetery or crematorium.
- A service and committal at a crematorium chapel.
- A service and committal at a gravesite.
- A public or private service.
- A service at an alternative location, for example a park, a beach, private gardens or even at your home.

## CHOOSING

# Burial



In general, there are four main types of burial options available.

It is important that you discuss your preferred choice with your funeral director as not all options may be available at your selected cemetery.

Some cemeteries may allow for advance arrangements and pre-purchase of cemetery sites where families may wish to be together.



### Lawn burials

Instead of traditional headstones, lawn burial sites feature bronze plaques on granite or concrete bases on the grave at ground level. When you overlook a lawn cemetery, all you see is a very peaceful panorama of lawn.

### Lawn beam burials

Lawn beam burials are suitable for people who like the idea of a lawn setting, but prefer something more akin to a headstone. In these areas, bronze plaques on small raised granite or concrete headstones are placed on a common beam of concrete. There is an area to place floral tributes on the beam on either side of the plaque. It is not necessary for floral tributes to be removed for lawn maintenance.

### Monumental burials

Monumental burial sites are more traditional than lawn or lawn beam cemeteries. These areas feature headstones made of granite, marble or concrete. Monumental masons construct the headstones to suit your request. The construction and upkeep of monuments usually remains the responsibility of the burial rights holder and descendants.

Your local council needs to give permission for the monument to be erected on the grave. The monumental mason you select to construct your memorial will normally apply for the necessary permit.

### Mausoleum vault burials

Mausoleum vault burials are available in some cemeteries. Mausoleums are external, above-ground, free-standing buildings with spaces or burial chambers for coffins.

## CHOOSING

# *Cremation*



There are a variety of memorialisation options available to lay the cremated remains to rest. Some people may choose to have the cremated remains in a crematorium space, in a lawn cemetery or garden, while others may choose a memorial keepsake.



Our staff have helped bereaved families make these decisions for many years. We can discuss the options and help you choose the best memorial on behalf of you and your family.

### **Arranging a cremation**

We can arrange the required legal documents and liaise with the crematorium authorities to make the necessary arrangements.

On these forms, your family or next of kin will need to record their intention regarding the disposition of the cremated remains. If they are undecided, the crematorium will hold the cremated remains for a reasonable period of time and will contact them for instructions.

### **After cremation**

The ashes can either be kept at the crematorium or returned to our funeral home. Soon after, someone will contact your loved ones to discuss the various memorialisation options available.

Crematoriums offer many unique and personalised alternatives for the final resting place of the cremated remains. Any combination of memorials may be chosen to remember loved ones.

If family members have a special request they need help in fulfilling on your behalf, they should not hesitate to ask staff for assistance.

### **How to memorialise**

There are three main types of memorialisation - permanent memorialisation, alternative memorialisation and scattering.

## Permanent memorialisation

This involves the interment of the cremated remains in a permanent memorial such as a crematorium, cemetery or church. For this option it may be necessary to consider whether a memorial should be created in which other family members' cremated remains can be placed in the future. Most crematoriums and cemeteries offer a variety of single, double and family memorials.

### Permanent memorials vary at different facilities but can include:

**Columbarium wall:** A traditional style of memorialisation where cremated remains are interred in a niche within the wall and memorialised with a personal plaque. Single and double plaques are available.

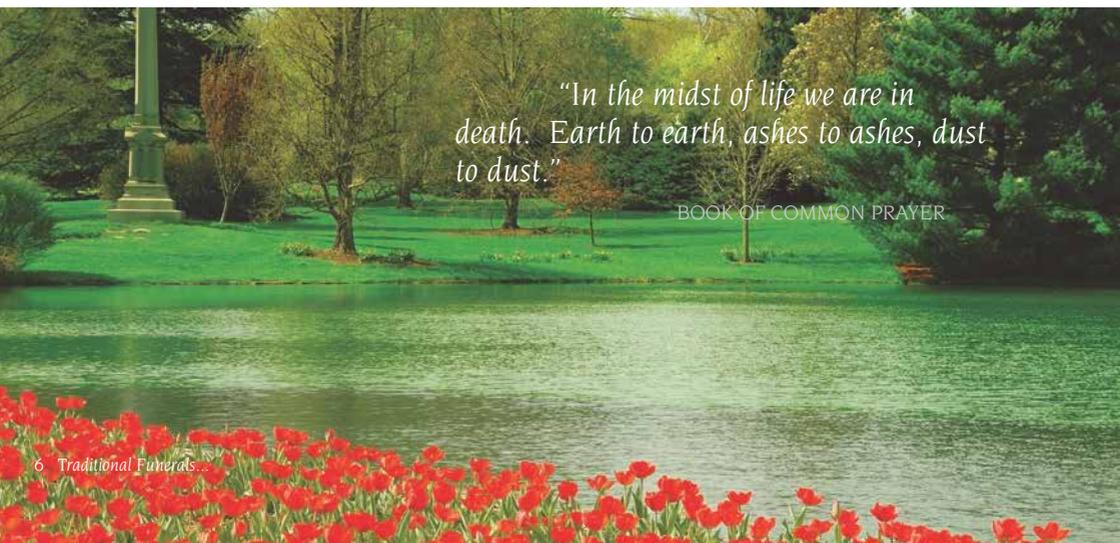
**Rose garden:** The cremated remains are interred in the garden and memorialised with a small granite pillar and a personalised plaque. Single and double memorials are available.

**Rock in waterway:** The cremated remains are interred near the waterway. A personalised plaque with a special message can be placed on a granite pillar located near the water or on a rock situated in the waterway.

**Memorial seat:** The memorial garden seat allows those left behind to sit in the tranquil environment of the memorial garden. A number of generations can be placed in the surrounding garden, each with their own memorial plaque fastened to the seat.

**Garden rockery:** Family garden rockeries are individually designed and personalised. You may choose a single, double or larger rockery for a number of family members.

**Family garden estate:** The family garden estate is specially designed and personalised to your family's requirements and is suited for many family members. It is an ideal way to have a lasting family memorial for future generations to visit.



*"In the midst of life we are in death. Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."*

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

## Alternative memorialisation

This usually involves having a memorial in the family home and includes full size memorials containing the cremated remains and keepsake memorials containing a small portion of cremated remains.

**Full Size Memorials:** A full size memorial holds the cremated remains and allows loved ones to keep them. These memorials come in a variety of shapes, sizes, colours and materials such as ceramics, custom wood, solid timber, marble and solid bronze. They range from traditional rectangular shapes to individually crafted memorials. Memorials can also look like ornaments or photo frames which allows a family to have a private memorial in their home as a meaningful tribute to their loved one.

**Keepsake memorials:** Keepsake memorials are similar to full size memorials but contain only a small portion of the cremated remains. There are a variety of keepsake memorials to choose from and they are available in ceramic, solid timber, cast bronze, gold or silver jewelry, picture frames and remembrance cabinets. As keepsake memorials contain only a portion of cremated remains, they may be used in combination with other memorialisation options.

You may like several members of your family to have a keepsake memorial so each person can have something as a remembrance of you.

They can choose a keepsake memorial and permanent memorial at a crematorium or cemetery to provide an everlasting place for your ashes while still giving them something to keep with them as a remembrance.

Many families like to have a keepsake memorial so they always have part of their loved one close to them and then scatter the rest of the cremated remains in a special place.

## Scattering

Some families choose to scatter the cremated remains of their loved one.

Scattering is irreversible so it needs to be considered carefully.

If it has been decided to scatter the cremated remains of a loved one, a number of options are available. Scattering can be done almost anywhere including at the crematorium, on your family property, in the ocean, on mountains or a place that holds special memories.

You can choose a permanent memorial without cremated remains simply by placing a plaque in the memorial gardens of a crematorium. Or you can scatter the cremated remains from a full size memorial and then keep it as a family memorial.

Keepsake memorials are valuable for those who choose to scatter the cremated remains of their loved one. Before scattering, a small portion of cremated remains can be placed in the memorial so they can always have a remembrance nearby.

*Discuss your preferences with your funeral director who will be able to ensure that the entire service runs smoothly and that all your needs are met.*



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