

Local Business SPOTLIGHT

Townley & Wheeler Funeral Home is celebrating our 70th year of service in the communities of Burnt Hills, Ballston Lake and the surrounding areas. We are carrying on a lasting tradition of trusted service and loving care to families who are in need before, during and after their time of loss.

Since 1949, our services have helped individuals to pre-plan their funerals, responding to immediate need death calls, care and supervision of funeral services and final disposition as well as aftercare assistance, community outreach and memorial creation. We provide these services for people from all walks of life, religious affiliations and cultural backgrounds and we are mindful of the diverse range of traditions associated with handling the loss of a loved one. We provide a caring and loving environment for families and friends to gather for visitations and memorial services at our beautifully renovated and maintained home.

In 1949, Wendell Townley and his wife, Jane, bought the home from the Leffingwell family. Together, they raised five children here and established a longstanding commitment to the community. Sons Harold and Frank Townley continued to carry on the faithful work that their father and mother dedicated their lives to in 1979. In 2013, Kathleen A. Lowes Sanvidge purchased the home and has since carried on the longstanding tradition of providing the highest level of care and service to the community. Kathleen is a first-generation Licensed Funeral Director with 29 years of experience. She is certified in the State of NY as a Women Business Enterprise and is currently the only female Licensed Funeral Director in the State to hold the WBE designation.

During the past six years, she has worked tirelessly to improve and enhance both the physical building and the caliber of services she offers. Her reputation for being caring, warm-hearted and

70 Years in Business!!



consummately professional has caused her business to grow steadily since she took over.

The beautiful 1920's home situated amid the town of Ballston serves as a residence for Kathleen, her fiancé, Zoltan and Kathleen's children, as well as a place of respite and solace for all who grieve. In addition to the chapel, which accommodates both burial and cremation services, there is an arrangement area where families can gather to make final plans for their loved ones, and her home is open to all she serves. Everyone is welcome to gather in the kitchen and living space of the home. "Nothing sets us apart more than the unique, quaint attention that each family receives here. We feel privileged to host everyone as our guest." We have recently expanded our front entryway and porch to accommodate large gatherings and offer a space to keep warm and out of the elements during inclement weather. Our large parking area makes it easy for people to park and visit; we have valets on hand, as well as a newly renovated handicap access ramp.

Incidentally, Kathleen Sanvidge is also owner of Valiant Monument Design, an ancillary business that offers monuments, engraving and installation for families.

The funeral home's customer base is, naturally, inclusive of all members of the surrounding community and the market we serve is largely southern Saratoga and Schenectady County; although, we also offer services out of town and across the country.

We are actively involved in several different organizations, including the Southern Saratoga Chamber of Commerce, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake BPA, NYS Funeral Directors Association, National funeral Directors' Association and several other local and regional organizations.

Townley & Wheeler Funeral Home is on the vanguard of new concepts and renovations and we continually strive to achieve the highest level of excellence in our work. One of the most important components of that work is to care for the body of the deceased during the embalming and preparation process. Recently, we completed the build of our state-of-the art embalming facility. Here, we will be able to offer those in our care the benefit of the most modern and up to date equipment available. Our goal is to preserve the dignity of the individual and offer the most comfort to the families, who will be secure in the knowledge that their loved ones are treated with respect and love from the time of death until they are laid to rest. ★



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