

PRE-PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL



SHOW YOUR FAMILY
YOU CARE

We all know that death is a difficult subject to discuss. However, putting your affairs in order is very important for you and your family. Most of us have the necessary life insurance and legal will to do this. So, why delay executing this final step of showing your family how much you care about them? Pre-planning your funeral will ensure that everything is looked after. Consider this the last act of love towards the people you love for the most.

Your Final Wishes Known

By making your wishes known, your loved ones will not have to guess what you may have wanted. You can also give your family what they need.

Remember, funeral is not about the deceased, it's about the loved ones left behind.

Disputes and hard feeling between your family members can be avoided. You will be remembered the way you want to be. Pre-planning will also ease the burden on your family. They will not be forced to make the hundreds of difficult decisions that need to be made upon your passing.

- **Cremation or burial**
- **Open or closed casket**
- **Church funeral or funeral home chapel**
- **Hymns to be played, bible passages to read**
- **Cost of the funeral**

Peace of mind

You and your loved ones will have a sense of calm knowing that all your arrangements have been made, long before they are needed.

Costs locked in

When you pre-pay for your funeral, you are protected from inflation and the rising costs of funeral services. A pre-paid funeral will also relieve your family from the financial burden of paying for your funeral.

Urgent decisions have been made

Did you know there are over 100 details to be attended to within the first 24 hours of death? Pre-planning your funeral will spare your family from having to make difficult decisions upon your passing. Your loved ones will not be forced into making decisions during this trying time, rather they can take the time needed to mourn and deal with their grief.

Your family will be allowed to grieve

Your family will have the benefit of a meaningful funeral. A funeral is an important event for a grieving family. Psychologically, it provides a sense of closure and enables the family to begin the healing process. Families benefit emotionally and socially by honouring the lives of their loved ones with a fitting tribute.

Discuss Pre-Planning With Your Family

*If I die sudden
Please don't tell anyone
There ain't nobody that needs to know
That I'm gone
Just put me in a pine box
Six feet underground
Don't be calling no minister
I don't need one around*

lyrics from "If I die Sudden"
by John Mellencamp



How many times have you heard someone say something to that effect? They probably think they're doing the family a favour. No fuss, no muss. But, isn't a funeral for the living, not the dead?

Maybe you don't want a big deal made of your funeral but it will be important for your loved ones to pay tribute to your life.

Unique Funeral Service Ideas

Maybe a traditional religious funeral won't reflect your life properly and perhaps it feels so stereotypical. You may want to try these unique ideas for the funeral service you want.

• A music lover's service

Your favorite songs can be played at your funeral. In fact, a playlist can be made by you before your passing and to be kept by the funeral director. Your music loving friends can then perform the songs.

• A hockey themed funeral

Everyone wears a hockey jersey. A hockey game can be played on the TV at the reception. Stompin Tom Connors' "The Good Old Hockey Game" can be played at the funeral.

• A Northern Wake

This is our version of the Irish Wake. An informal reception, at our reception hall (or anywhere else). A chance for loved ones, friends and family to share food and drink, tell stories and reflect upon a life well lived.

• Classic car procession for the car lover



Some things to consider when pre-planning your funeral:

- Selection of a funeral director.
- Find a funeral home that you trust, you feel comfortable with and offers the services you require.
- Burial or cremation.
- Selection of casket or cremation container.
- Selection of a monument or cremation bevel grave and inscriptions.
- The location for the service: church, funeral home, other.
- Type of service: memorial, wake, military, religious, contemporary.
- Will there be a visitation?
- Flower arrangements.
- Photos that will be displayed.
- Funeral music and songs.
- What the deceased will wear.
- Scriptures to be read.
- Transportation and funeral cars.
- Who will officiate at the funeral service?
- Who will perform the eulogy?
- Who will read the scriptures?
- Selection of pallbearers.
- Will there be a reception after the service?
- List of charities to which donations should be made.

Where to have the Funeral and Visitation?

Of course, you can choose a traditional venue for a funeral, like a church or a funeral home chapel. But, have you considered a place more personal? Someplace that reflects your life, your passions?

- A private residence
- A beautiful outdoor spot
- A baseball diamond
- A concert hall
- A pub
- Any place that was special to you



Do you remember Father Les Costello's Funeral, former Toronto Maple Leaf and founder of the Flying Fathers? The hockey playing priest's funeral was held at the McIntyre Arena. Certainly, a fitting place for his final hurrah!

Keep Important Documents Together

It's a good idea to keep all the following, important documents together, in a safe place. Also, tell a loved one where they are and how to get access to them, if something tragic were to happen to you.

- **Pre-planned Funeral document**
- **Final documents**, which include wills, trusts, powers of attorney, and health care directives.
- **Income information**, including pension and child support and alimony documents.
- **Investment accounts**, including retirement accounts, mutual funds, and college saving plans.
- **Capital Assets**: ownerships or deeds for your house, cottage, vacation home, autos, RV's, etc.
This should also include any lease agreements on property you may own or lease.
- **Credit card account information.**
- **Bills and banking information**, which involves clearly explaining how bills are paid and includes any necessary information and instructions for bills paid online.
- **Insurance policies**, including life, health, auto, and disability or long-term care insurance papers.
- **Other important paperwork**, including military records, old tax returns, and birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- **Digital account information**, which includes email and social media accounts, online services, and financial accounts. You want to organize and store essential passwords, access keys, PINs, and other sensitive information.



At Miron Wilson we know that pre-planning your funeral is a huge step to take. Doing so will make everything so much easier for your family and will: make your final wishes known; give you and your family piece of mind; lock in funeral costs; ensure all urgent decisions will be made; allow your family to grieve.

PRE-PLANNING YOUR FUNERAL CAN TRULY BE YOUR LAST ACT OF LOVE.



Discover the Peace of Mind that
comes with pre-planning your
final wishes.

Miron-Wilson Funeral Home is here
to help walk you through the simple
steps so that you can get your affairs
in order now and avoid financial
burdens later.



Chet Hartling
Pre-Planning Funeral Director

Contact us today to get started.

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