

# Funeral Planning Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

- Preparations
  - Collect personal information for obituary.
  - Plan the type of funeral service you will be having.
  - Decide when the funeral will be held.
  - Decide who will attend.
  - Choose a funeral home.
- Funeral Home Services
  - Choose burial or cremation.
  - Select a casket or cremation container.
  - Select a burial vault or cremation urn.
  - Choose the funeral location.
  - Choose family viewing or visitation.
  - Decide on the type of flower arrangements.
  - Select a photograph to be displayed.
  - Decide which religious or fraternal items are to be displayed.
  - Decide what the deceased will wear.
  - Select music, hymns, and solos.
  - Select scripture or literature to be read.
  - Select a memorial register.
  - Select memorial folders and acknowledgement cards.
  - Decide on the transportation.
- Participants
  - Choose clergy or officiator.
  - Choose organist.
  - Select pallbearers.
  - Select family member or friend to perform the eulogy.
  - Select family member or friend to read scripture or literature.
- Cemetery Selections
  - Choose a cemetery.
  - Select a burial or cremation plot.
  - Decide whether above or below ground.

- Select a memorial or grave marker and inscription.
- Final Arrangements
  - Apply for death certificates.
  - Apply for a burial permit.
  - Request preparation and embalming.
  - Compose and submit obituary.
  - Arrange location and food for the reception.