

Seeking & Obtaining Funeral Services

A Guide for Bereaved Childbearing Families
and Advocates



*He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.*

Psalms 147:3 NIV

The purpose of this brochure is to help you be more informed when seeking mortuary services. The information contained here is provided for reference only and should not be construed as an endorsement or opinion about any mortuary provider whether listed or not listed.

As a nonprofit and faith-based community organization AgapéCare Cradle recognizes the loss of a baby as a significant and life-

changing event. We assist in remembering the 'least of these' children. (Matt. 25:40)

First Call

When a baby dies, families may not know who to call, what to ask, or what to expect from a funeral home. Some common questions and concerns are discussed in this brochure.

What Will I Need To Tell The Funeral Director?

When you call a mortuary, the funeral director may ask who you are in relationship to the baby who died (mother, father, grandparent, friend of family, etc.), where the baby's body is, and when the baby died. The funeral director may ask you who the baby's doctor was. If your baby was stillborn at the hospital, your baby's doctor is usually your obstetrician or family doctor. If your baby was born alive, the doctor might be a neonatologist or pediatrician. The funeral director might ask you some questions about what services you want. Asking about the kind of service (funeral, cremation, memorial, etc) helps the funeral director to start planning how to best help you through such a difficult time.

While talking with you, the funeral director may ask about scheduling a time to meet with you personally to make further arrangements for your baby's service and complete necessary forms. If you are still in the hospital you may not know when you are going to be dismissed. You may want to delay scheduling an appointment until you

know for sure when you can leave the hospital. The funeral director can arrange to receive your baby at the funeral home while you are still in the hospital waiting to be dismissed. Try to take some time to rest at home a little before meeting with the funeral director. It is ideal if both mother and father can meet with the funeral director together.

Payment

Funeral Homes typically offer SERVICES and funeral SUPPLIES. Each service and each supply may have a specific cost or several items may be grouped together as a 'package'.

- BASIC SERVICES is a fee that includes business overhead and services the funeral home provides to assist you such as conducting arrangements conferences, securing necessary permits and completing paperwork, caring for the deceased child's body, coordinating with the cemetery or crematory and related businesses and services.

- ITEMIZED SERVICES include transportation of the deceased child, embalming, cremation, or use of staff and facilities for visitation, funeral, or memorial services.

- SUPPLIES or MERCHANDISE may include casket, outer burial container, urn, and printed items such as memorial folders, prayer cards, or register or remembrance books.

- CASH ADVANCE items are things which the mortuary doesn't directly provide but can obtain for your baby's service.

Usually these items must be paid for immediately. They may include such things as a newspaper obituary, flowers, grave space, or other cemetery fees.

Mortuary services and supplies which you request directly from the mortuary will generally be charged according to an agreement between you and the funeral home serving you. Your funeral director will provide you with a written contract that describes the services and supplies you have requested and their costs. You will be asked to sign this contract.

Be Informed

Choosing a funeral provider who respects the preciousness of your child and will make every effort to meet your needs is important.

Before calling any mortuary, write down your questions. Ask someone to help you if possible. Take notes while on the phone. Make an informed decision.

Information for consumers and a complete list of funeral homes in Kansas can be accessed on Kansas State Board of Mortuary Arts at www.accesskansas.org/ksbma/listings.html. The following is a list of many mortuary providers for the Wichita area. Please also refer to the local telephone directory for a complete and current list.

Wichita Area Mortuaries

Advantage Funeral & Cremation Services
4408 West Central - 945-8108

All Faiths Mortuary and Crematory
2850 South Seneca - 524-1122

Baker Funeral Home
100 South Cedar – Valley Center - 755-2731
6100 East Central – 612-1700

Bethea, Robert J, Jr Funerals and Cremations
615 West Maple - 201-1660

Bigelow Funeral Directors
957 North Oliver - 247-5492

Broadway Mortuary
1147 South Broadway - 262-3435

Central Avenue Funeral Services
2703 East Central - 652-7397

Cochran Mortuary
1411 North Broadway - 262-4422

Culbertson-Smith Mortuary
115 South Seneca - 265-2646

DeVorss Flanagan Hunt Mortuary
201 South Hydraulic - 263-0244

Downing & Lahey Mortuary
6555 East Central – 682-5575
10515 West Maple – 773-4553

Hillside Funeral Home
935 North Hillside – 682-6575
2929 West 13th – 943-2929

Jackson Mortuary
1125 East 13th - 262-5431

Lakeview Funeral Home & Cemetery
12100 East 13th North - 684-8200

Old Mission Mortuary & Cemetery
3424 Eash 21st - 686-7311

Resthaven Mortuary & Cemetery
11800 West Hwy 54 - 722-2100

Watson Funeral Home
3201 South Webb - 618-9898

AgapéCare Cradle

We minister to bereaved childbearing families by helping families to navigate the troubling and difficult experience of losing a child during pregnancy or as an infant.



Our Mission is to reflect Christ's unconditional love by meeting funeral needs and providing bereavement support to families who suffer the loss of a baby.

AgapéCare Cradle services are made possible through charitable contributions.



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