

# End of Life Ministry

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church  
101 Gold Mine Drive  
San Francisco, CA 94131  
415-285-9540  
[www.staidansf.org](http://www.staidansf.org)

## Questionnaire Regarding Funeral Home / Mortuary Prices

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Funeral Home/Mortuary: \_\_\_\_\_

Director/Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Handling/Disposition of the Body of a Person Who Has Died</b>	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Price</b>
Pick-up of the body, at a residence, hospital, nursing home, or other health care facility, & transporting to your facility:	
When there is to be no embalming: Cleaning and dressing of the body only, with no cosmetics, no eyeball caps, or any other treatments:	
When there is to be no embalming: Cost of refrigeration/dry ice, if needed:	
Embalming, including cleaning and dressing of the body, cosmetics, eyeball caps, and other treatments:	
Caskets for burial:	
Caskets or other containers for cremation:	
Urns/containers for ashes:	
Cremation, including transportation to a crematorium:	
Shroud / Container for Green Burial:	

Casket burial vaults:

(Usually purchased from a cemetery)

Item	Price
Bringing the body to a church for the Funeral service:	
Funeral service plus a Vigil (Wake) the evening before (leaving the body at the church overnight):	
Having the funeral/memorial service plus a Vigil (Wake) at your facility:	
Transporting the body to a cemetery for the graveside service, and assisting there:	
Providing transportation for the immediate family/relatives to the church or to your facility:	
Providing transportation for the immediate family/relatives from the church or your facility to the cemetery:	

Assistance with the burial of ashes:	
Assistance with the scattering of ashes:	

Do you have any combination "packages," such as, for example: picking up a body at a residence, hospital, nursing home, or other health care facility; cremating the body; and turning over the ashes to a family member or other designated person?

Details of such packages, including the approximate prices:

Price	Item

Do you provide, or assist with Natural Green Burials?

Do you provide, or assist with Water Cremation ("aquamation" or "Alkaline Hydrolysis")?

Do you provide, or assist with Human Composting ("Natural Organic Reduction" or "Reduction of Human Remains")?

If so, what do you offer, and what is the price?

7-16-2023

## End of Life Committee of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church

### Local Funeral Homes / Mortuaries

This list, which was originally prepared in the autumn of 2020, is neither complete nor completely accurate, due to closings, consolidations, and buy-ups that have occurred since then.

1. Chapel of the Highlands  
El Camino Real at 194 Millwood Drive  
Millbrae, CA 94030
2. College Chapel Mortuary  
3434 17th St  
San Francisco, CA 94110
3. Colma Cremation and Funeral Services  
7747 El Camino Real  
Colma, CA 94014
4. Cypress Lawn  
1370 El Camino Real  
Colma, CA 94014
5. Driscoll's Valencia St. Serra Mortuary  
1465 Valencia Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110
6. Garden Chapel Funeral Directors  
885 El Camino Real  
San Francisco, CA 94080
7. Greer Family Mortuary & Cremation Services  
2694 Blanding Avenue  
Alameda, CA 94501

8. **McAvoy O'Hara**  
The Evergreen Mortuary  
Geary Boulevard at Tenth Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94118
9. **Pacific Interment Mortuary and Crematory Service**  
2100 Folsom Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110
10. **Skylawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park**  
Hwy 92 at Skyline Blvd.  
San Mateo, CA 94402
11. **Sullivan's and Duggan's Serra Funeral Services**  
6201 Geary Boulevard  
San Francisco, CA 94114
12. **Thompson's Bay View Mortuary, Inc.**  
950 Gilman Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94124
13. **Best Cremation Care**  
21168 Redwood Road  
Suite 130  
Castro Valley, CA 94546
14. **Forever Fernwood**  
301 Tennessee Valley Road  
Mill Valley, CA 94941
15. **Valente Marini Perata & Company**  
4840 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94112
16. **Green Street Mortuary**  
649 Green Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133

17. Ashley and McMullen-Wing Sun  
4200 Geary Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94118

18. San Francisco Columbarium & Funeral Home  
One Loraine Court  
33San Francisco, CA 94118



**FD- 1454/ FD- 1506/ CR-58  
General Price List 03/21/2023**

**MAIN SERVICES**

**Basic Service Fee ..... \$755.00**

This fee is included in the charges for direct cremation, direct burial, and shipping/receiving. This fee includes overhead, obtaining appropriate information, signature on death certificate, filing the death certificate, permit, and storage of remains up to 7 days.

**Direct Cremation ..... \$1450.00**

Includes removal of remains, completing the death certificate, obtaining the doctor or coroner's signature on the death certificate, filing the death certificate, disposition permit with the local health department, cremation container, and cremation. If you want to arrange a direct cremation, you can use an alternative container. Alternative containers encase the body and can be made of material like fiberboard or composition material (with or without an outside covering.) The containers we provide are cardboard. If the consumer provides the container, cremation is \$1330\*, but for cremation containers consisting of material other than cardboard, there are additional crematory fees. **Certified copy of death certificate and permit fee not included.**

**There are additional crematory charges for remains weighing in excess of 250 lbs.**

**Direct Aquamation.....\$5500.00**

Includes removal of remains, completing the death certificate, obtaining the doctor or coroner's signature on the death certificate, filing the death certificate, disposition permit with the local health department and aquamation. **Certified copies of death certificate not included.**

**There are additional Aquamation charges for remains weighing in excess of 250 lbs.**

**Direct Burial ..... \$2005.00\*- \$2900.00\*\***

Includes removal of remains, completing the death certificate, obtaining the doctor or coroner's signature on the death certificate, filing the death certificate, disposition permit with the local health department, and non-witnessed delivery of remains to a local cemetery. No embalming or dressing included with direct burial.

**Cemetery and casket cost not included. TAX AND FILING FEE NOT INCLUDED.**

\* With casket provided by the purchaser \$2005.00

\*\* With minimum casket provided by our firm \$2900.00

**Memorial Service ..... \$655.00**

Afford family and friends an opportunity to join together in support. Use of chapel for an hour.

**Each Additional Hour ..... \$200.00/hr**

**Witnessed Cremation ..... \$975.00**



Includes minimal preparation of remains (without embalming, add an additional \$350.00 for autopsied cases) and use of the chapel 1/2 hour with cremation directly thereafter.

PRIOR TO DRAFTING ANY CONTRACT FOR GOOD AND SERVICES, THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY OR THE DECEDENT'S SURVIVOR WHO IS HANDLING THE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A COPY OF ANY PRE-NEED AGREEMENT IN THE POSSESSION OF THE FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT THAT HAS BEEN SIGNED AND PAID FOR, IN FULL OR IN PART, BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE DECEDENT.



- Staff for Graveside or Church Service ..... \$650.00**  
Not held at our chapels.
- Private Memorial Charter ..... \$1500.00**  
For committal of ashes to the sea. United States Coast Guard certified and inspected vessel.  
Up to 10 passengers.
- Domestic Shipping ..... \$1980.00**  
Includes removal, embalming, completing and filing death certificate, disposition permit, and delivery of the remains to airport. **(Autopsy, airfare, shipping tray or casket not included).**
- International Shipping ..... \$3000.00**  
Same as domestic shipping with preparation of consulate paperwork. **(Consulate fees, casket, apostille, airtray, and dressing are not included).**
- Receiving Remains from another Funeral Home ..... \$1700.00**  
Includes transfer from local airport, temporary shelter of deceased, and non-witnessed van delivery to cemetery. **(Hearse, graveside service, and state filing fee not included).**
- Embalming ..... \$700.00**  
Embalming is not required by law. Embalming may be necessary, however, if you select certain funeral arrangements, such as a funeral with viewing. If you do not want embalming, you usually have the right to choose an arrangement that does not require you to pay for it, such as direct cremation or direct burial.
- Autopsied Cases ..... add \$350.00**

### CASKETS

- Adult Caskets ..... \$895.00- \$5039.00**  
A complete casket price list will be provided at the funeral home.
- Alternative Container ..... \$20.00- \$495.00**

### URNS

Urns ..... \$64.00- \$1000.00

A complete urn price list will be provided at the funeral home.



## OTHER SERVICES AND MERCHANDISE

<b>ID View</b> .....	<b>\$775.00</b>
Includes minimal preparation of remains and 45 minutes family viewing at our Emeryville location. Autopsied cases add \$350.00.	
<b>Minimal Preparation of Remains</b> .....	<b>\$375.00</b>
Includes basic hygienic care for family viewing.	
<b>Dressing of Remains</b> .....	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>Register Book</b> .....	<b>\$50.00 and up</b>
<b>Prayer Cards (50 count)</b> .....	<b>\$100.00 and up</b>
<b>Mailing of Ashes</b> .....	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>Mailing of Death Certificate(s)</b> .....	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>Casketing Remains</b> .....	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>Non Witnessed Sea Scattering of Ashes</b> .....	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>48 Hour Rush Return of Ashes</b> .....	<b>\$700.00</b>
<b>Crematory Fee</b> .....	<b>\$275.00</b>
<b>Cremation Letter</b> .....	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>Morgue Storage Fee after 7 Days</b> .....	<b>\$100.00/day</b>
<b>Storage of Remains without cremation or burial by Pacific</b> .....	<b>\$100.00/day</b>
<b>Non Witnessed Van Delivery of casket to cemetery</b> .....	<b>\$550.00</b>
<b>Transfer of Remains to Funeral Home</b> .....	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>After Hours Removal</b> .....	<b>\$200.00</b>
Monday- Friday 5:00 PM- 9:00 AM, Weekends, and Holidays.	
<b>Hearse Delivery (3 Hours)</b> .....	<b>\$1000.00</b>
<b>Limousine (3 Hours)</b> .....	<b>\$1200.00</b>
<b>Use of Facility for Autopsy or Organ Tissue Donation</b> .....	<b>\$875.00</b>

After hours and weekend use add \$500.00.

Refiling Permit ..... \$150.00 + Permit Fee  
Completing Consulate Paperwork..... \$1000.00

OTHER SERVICES AND MEETINGS

ID View ..... \$175.00  
 Initial preparation of Home ..... \$375.00  
 1. Viewing of Home ..... \$300.00  
 Register Book ..... \$50.00 and up  
 Prayer Cards (50 count) ..... \$100.00 and up  
 Mailing of Aids ..... \$250.00  
 Mailing of Death Certificates ..... \$50.00  
 Cemetery Burial ..... \$200.00  
 Non Witnessed Burial of Aides ..... \$200.00  
 After Burial Burial of Aides ..... \$100.00  
 Cremation Fee ..... \$375.00  
 Cremation Labor ..... \$50.00  
 Mortgage Storage Fee after 7 Days ..... \$150.00/day  
 Storage of Remains without cremation or burial by Pacific ..... \$100.00/day  
 Non Witnessed Van Delivery of casket to cemetery ..... \$250.00  
 Transfer of Remains to Funeral Home ..... \$400.00  
 After Hours Service (Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 AM, Weekends and Holidays) ..... \$200.00  
 Hearse Delivery (2 hours) ..... \$100.00  
 (Limousine) (3 hours) ..... \$150.00  
 Use of Facility for Autopsy or Organ Tissue Donation ..... \$75.00

# Human Composting

**From:** Amelia Gallegos from Earth [care@earthfuneral.com](mailto:care@earthfuneral.com)  
**Subject:** A couple quick follow ups  
**Date:** July 12, 2023 at 5:52 PM  
**To:** Don Fox [dfoxsf@icloud.com](mailto:dfoxsf@icloud.com)



## Earth

Hi Donald,

As mentioned, there are some different prices for Californians if someone is pre-planning for a future need vs. if someone is expected to pass in the near future or has already passed. Someone pre-planning for the future (6 months beyond now) has a cost of \$5450. This cost, regardless of whether or not we are physically operating in California yet or not, includes transportation back to the nearest Earth facility.

If someone is making arrangements when a death has already occurred or is expected in less than 6 months, the cost is \$3450. This cost does not include transportation back to Earth, and as we are not currently operating in California the family would need to work with a local California funeral home to arrange for the transport back to the nearest Earth facility. At this time, that is in Auburn, WA. Our local airport is SEA-TAC. Families can expect the additional fees with the California funeral home to be about \$2,000-3,000.

[Here](#) is a link to our price list.

We would gladly have you or any other church members for an in person or video tour of our funeral home in Auburn, WA. [This calendar](#) can be used to book either type of tour.

As you're learning more about Earth and soil transformation, I thought it might be helpful to share some of our most frequently asked questions below. Also, I'm including a link to an overview document that you can print out or share here: [Intro to Soil Transformation](#)

Thank you for your interest in Earth. It would be our honor to serve you and your church.

Warm regards,  
Amelia

### *What is an Earth soil transformation?*

An Earth soil transformation is a natural, environmentally-friendly alternative to burial and cremation. Over a ~45-day process, we gently transform a body into nutrient rich soil. Our families choose how much soil they'd like returned - to scatter or plant - and the remainder is sent to our [Olympic Peninsula conservation site](#) for land restoration purposes.

### *How does the process work?*

Our soil transformation process is a naturally occurring process that is optimized. The process takes place in our proprietary [vessel system](#), which creates ideal conditions for water and naturally occurring microbes to break the body down on a molecular level. The end result is nutrient-rich soil.

### *Why is soil transformation the most sustainable option?*

The soil transformation process is natural, and it is much gentler than traditional alternatives. The Earth process produces no net CO2 compared to cremation and is a [regenerative process](#), versus one of pollution. In fact, the average cremation produces CO2 equivalent to a 600 mile car journey.

### *What are the benefits of pre-paying for end-of-life arrangements?*

Pre-paying for arrangements enables one to:

- Choose an option that aligns with one's beliefs and preferences
- Save money (arrangement costs have doubled over the past decade due to inflation and rising funeral costs)
- Ease the emotional and financial burden on family friends (by making arrangements and prepaying ahead of time so they don't have to)

Many individuals and couples find that prepaying for their arrangements gives them peace of mind, and it's generally recommended as part of end-of-life planning.

#### *Why should I choose Earth?*

Thanks to our significant investment in research and development, our process is ~1.5x faster than other soil transformation providers. This allows loved ones to get closure sooner. Earth also offers the easiest way to make arrangements, having developed an industry-leading online experience. Our Family Portal enables the management of all arrangements in one place with real-time status updates, online obituaries, and the ability to invite family and friends to collaborate. Finally, we have invested millions to develop a beautiful, state-of-art facility, unlike any other.

#### *How do I make arrangements?*

We've designed the simplest arrangement process in the funeral industry. You can make arrangements online or over the phone, without ever having to step foot in a funeral home. The arrangement process itself takes less than 15 minutes.

Amelia Gallegos  
Funeral Director  
4620 B St NW, Suite 102, Auburn, WA 98001  
(206) 686-5909  
[earthfuneral.com](http://earthfuneral.com)



License # 21032469  
(877) 327-4109  
4620 B St NW, Suite 102  
Auburn, WA 98001

## GENERAL PRICE LIST

These prices are effective as of June 1, 2023, and are subject to change without notice. The goods and services shown below are those we can provide to our customers. You may choose only the items you desire. However, any funeral arrangements you select will include a charge for our basic services and overhead. If legal or other requirements mean you must buy any items you did not specifically ask for, we will explain the reason in writing on the statement we provide describing the funeral goods and services you selected.

Prior to drafting any contract for goods or services, the responsible party or the decedent's survivor who is handling the funeral arrangements is entitled to receive a copy of any pre-need agreement, in the possession of the funeral establishment, that has been signed and paid for, in full or in part, by or on behalf of the decedent.

### TERMS OF PAYMENT

Payment is due in full prior to services rendered. We accept all major credit cards.

#### **EARTH® PACKAGE** **\$3,950.00**

Includes the basic services of a licensed funeral director and staff; collection, transportation and care of the decedent from within Earth's Washington service area\*; sheltering of the decedent in refrigeration for up to 30 days; filing of all necessary paperwork & permits; any relevant state or county disposition fees; biodegradable Soil Transformation™ shroud; an Earth® Soil Transformation™; portions of the soil returned in a biodegradable container (up to 5) and/or donation of the soil to Earth's local conservation site; planting of 5 Impact Trees through One Tree Planted; and access to the Earth® Family Portal.

#### **EARTH® PACKAGE (Out of State)** **\$3,450.00**

Includes coordination with a local funeral home; collection from Sea-Tac Airport, sheltering of the decedent in refrigeration for up to 30 days; any relevant state or county disposition fees; biodegradable Soil Transformation™ shroud; an Earth® Soil Transformation™; portions of the soil returned in a biodegradable container (up to 5) and/or donation of the soil to Earth's local conservation site; planting of 5 Impact Trees through One Tree Planted; and access to the Earth® Family Portal.

#### **EARTH® PACKAGE (PNW Funeral Home)** **\$2,950.00**

Includes coordination with a local funeral home; sheltering of the decedent in refrigeration for up to 30 days; biodegradable Soil Transformation™ shroud; an Earth® Soil Transformation™; portions of the soil returned in a biodegradable container (up to 5) and/or donation of the soil to Earth's local conservation site; planting of 5 Impact Trees through One Tree Planted; and access to the Earth® Family Portal.

#### **COLLECTION AND DELIVERY OF SOIL**

Collect directly from Earth® in Auburn, WA

**Included**

USPS Priority Mail Express (up to five containers)

**Included**

Hand Delivery (available only in service area\*)

**\$150.00**

Full or partial donation of soil

**Included**

#### **LAYING IN CEREMONY** **\$500.00**

An intimate in-person ceremony of up to 45 minutes for up to 8 individuals, and the witnessed placement of the body into the Earth® Soil Transformation™ vessel. The ceremony takes place at our Auburn facility and the body is gently washed and shrouded beforehand by the Earth® team.

#### **PREPARATION FOR LAYING IN CEREMONY** **\$350.00**

Only required for cases where extensive restoration is needed due to autopsy, bone donation, or major trauma.

\*Visit [earthfuneral.com/service-area](http://earthfuneral.com/service-area) for our full Washington service area



License # 21032469  
(877) 327-4109  
4620 B St NW, Suite 102  
Auburn, WA 98001

**BASIC SERVICES OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND STAFF, AND OVERHEAD \$995.00**

This fee is for our basic services and overhead, which is added to the total cost of the funeral arrangements you select (this fee is included in the Earth® Package). This fee includes responding to the initial request for service, conducting the arrangement conference, preparing the biographical and statistical data, preparing and filing papers, permits, and authorizations, coordinating with those providing other services, and retaining and caring for remains before the commencement of post-death activities.

**EARTH® SOIL TRANSFORMATION™ SERVICES \$2,950.00**  
Transformation of the body into nutrient-rich soil.

**PREPARATION OF THE BODY**  
Shelting of decedent in refrigeration; first 30 days \$250.00  
Shelting of decedent in refrigeration; daily charge beyond 30 days \$50.00  
Removal of battery-operated implanted device Included

**TRANSPORTATION**  
Collection of decedent within Earth's Washington Service Area\* \$200.00  
Additional fee for assistance in pick-up if decedent is located at a private residence \$100.00  
Forwarding of decedent to another funeral home (within service area\*) \$350.00  
Receiving decedent from another funeral home Included  
Ferry Fee Varies

**MERCHANDISE**  
Soil container \$25.00  
Biodegradable shroud \$50.00

**SOIL STORAGE**  
Storage of soil after transformation is complete; daily charge beyond 30 days \$50

**CASH ADVANCE ITEMS**  
We charge you on behalf of relevant state and local agencies in obtaining the below cash advance items.  
Washington State Death Certificate, per certified copy \$25.00  
Death certificate ordering fee (only charged for first death certificate) \$15.50  
Death certificate mailing fee (only charged for first death certificate) \$18.00  
King County Disposition Fee (included in the Earth® Package) \$70.00  
Pierce County filing fee (included in the Earth® Package) \$10.00  
County coroner/medical examiner fees (where necessary) Varies

**PREPAID EARTH® PACKAGE \$4,950.00**  
Includes the basic services of a licensed funeral director and staff; collection, transportation and care of the decedent from within Earth's Washington service area\*; sheltering of the decedent in refrigeration for up to 30 days; filing of all necessary paperwork & permits; any relevant state or county disposition fees; biodegradable Soil Transformation™ shroud; an Earth® Soil Transformation™; portions of the soil returned in a biodegradable container (up to 5) and/or donation of the soil to Earth's local conservation site; planting of 5 Impact Trees through One Tree Planted; and access to the Earth® Family Portal.

**PREPAID EARTH® PACKAGE (Out of State) \$3,950.00**  
Includes coordination with a local funeral home; collection from Sea-Tac Airport, sheltering of the decedent in refrigeration for up to 30 days; any relevant state or county disposition fees; biodegradable Soil Transformation™ shroud; an Earth® Soil Transformation™; portions of the soil returned in a biodegradable container (up to 5) and/or donation of the soil to Earth's local conservation site; planting of 5 Impact Trees through One Tree Planted; and access to the Earth® Family Portal.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION**  
Worldwide travel protection (collection from anywhere in the world) \$500.00

**INSTALLMENT SETUP FEE**  
Added to all Prepaid Packages paid in installments \$50.00

## **NATURAL GREEN BURIALS**

Natural Burial involves no embalming or chemicals of any kind, and no grave-liners or vaults are necessary. Instead, the body is allowed to recycle naturally back to the earth.

## **Fernwood Cemetery and Funeral Home**

301 Tennessee Valley Road, Mill Valley, CA 94941  
415-383-7100 • [www.fernwood.com](http://www.fernwood.com)

Fernwood is one of the country's first environmentally conscious green cemeteries, where land stewardship and restoration is integrated with cemetery and burial ritual.

Adjacent to the Bay Area's Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Fernwood is a unique site, where families, friends and their loved ones connect through cycles of nature, memory, and conservation.

A National Wildlife Federation Habitat, the rolling hills of our grounds are a place where every tree, rock and bird become a living memorial. Our main building, which houses a landmark chapel and gathering room for remembrance services, is a state of the art architectural masterpiece.

We offer natural green burial, traditional burial, and cremation. Our vision is driven by a desire for simplicity and a deep commitment to the conservation and restoration of the natural environment. Our hope is to help you fill the emptiness of your loss by giving expression to the richness and beauty of a life that was like no other.

Green, or natural burial involves no embalming or chemicals of any kind, and no grave-liners or vaults are necessary. Instead, the body is allowed to recycle naturally back to the earth. Fernwood provides both full body and cremation burial options in the green area of our cemetery. We allow only biodegradable burial containers, such as a natural wood or wicker caskets, fabric shrouds or wood cremation containers.

## **BOULDER GRAVE MARKERS**

As part of our land stewardship, graves at Fernwood are dug by hand, and graves are not marked with traditional cut and polished headstones or bronze markers. Instead, a small, natural boulder can be engraved and used as a marker. Some families choose to simply allow their loved one's gravesite to blend into the natural environment – where every tree, flower, songbird and butterfly becomes a living memorial. We map each grave using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and mark every burial with an identification device to ensure that a family can always find their loved one's location.

## **NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION CERTIFIED HABITAT**

As a National Wildlife Federation Certified Habitat, our cemetery provides a sustainable habitat for wildlife to live and raise their young. Our hillsides are blanketed with heritage oak and bay laurel trees, towering over ferns and native grasses. Songbirds, squirrels, deer, and even a bobcat or two have chosen to make Fernwood their permanent home.

## **PRICING**

Cremation Space: Prices starting from ~~\$2,640~~

Burial Space: Prices starting from ~~\$6,710~~



Obituaries  
(<https://obituaries.basicfunerals.ca>)

1-877-229-7077

(tel:1-877-229-7077)

Basic  
Funerals  
(800) 229-7077  
www.basicfunerals.ca

Home

Your Options

 **basicFunerals** (<https://basicfunerals.ca>)  
AND CREMATION CHOICES

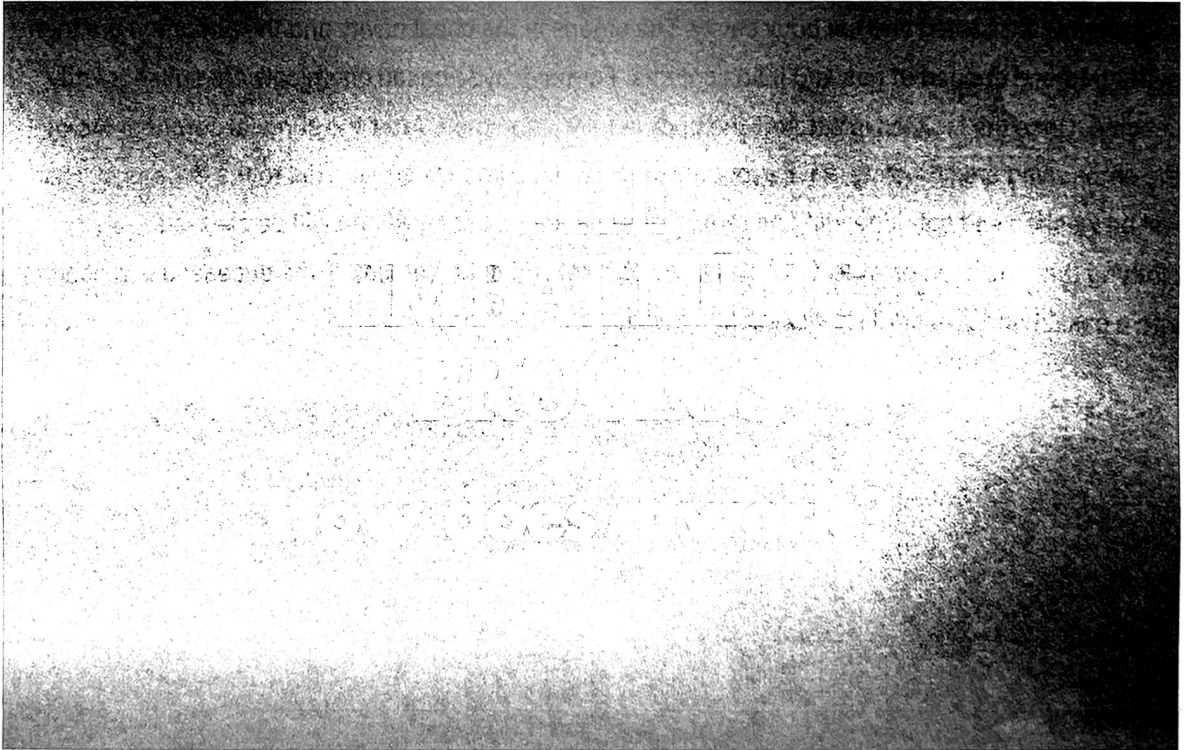
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# The Embalming Process



The art of preserving the body of the deceased has roots to Ancient Egypt as early as 6000 B.C.

Embalming can take place due to either religious reasons or sanitation concerns. In today's world, embalming is a personal preference, and often depends on the visitation or service arrangements made by family. As funeral professionals, we are often asked about the preparation aspect of our business. Here is a summary of how it happens.

## The Embalming Process, Step by Step

Before the embalming begins, the body is washed in a disinfectant solution. Limbs are massaged to relieve the stiffening of the joints and muscles. Any necessary shaving would also take place at this time. Your loved ones eyes are closed using glue or plastic eye caps that sit on the eye and hold the eyelid in place. The lower jaw is secured by wires or sewing. Once the jaw is secured the mouth can be manipulated into the desired position. During the surgical portion of embalming process, the blood is removed from the body through the veins and replaced with formaldehyde-based chemicals through the arteries. The embalming solution may also contain glutaraldehyde, methanol, ethanol, phenol, water, and dyes. After the arterial embalming, the body's cavities must be embalmed as well. A small incision is made in the lower part of the deceased's abdomen and a trocar (a sharp surgical instrument) is inserted into the body cavity. The organs in the chest cavity and the abdomen are then punctured and drained of gas and fluid contents. Formaldehyde-based chemicals are subsequently injected. Once the incision is sutured, the body is fully embalmed. After the surgical components of the embalming are complete, an appropriate amount of cosmetics are applied to the deceased. Hair will be washed and set depending on family's preferences. Your loved one will be dressed in any clothing that has been provided. Following the cosmetization and dressing, the deceased is placed into a casket and prepared for visitation or service.



# THE EMBALMING PROCESS

## How does it work?

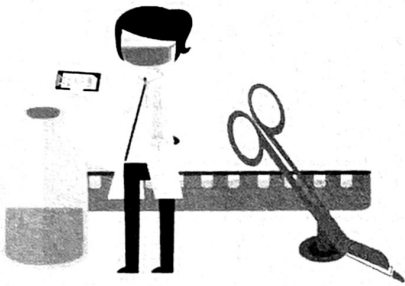
## Emblaming: Two Major Steps

### Surgical

Bodily fluids are removed and replaced with formaldehyde-based chemical solutions

### Cosmetic

Body preparation involves setting facial features, make-up, and hair-styling



## 1 Preparing the Body for Embalming

Before the embalming begins, the body is washed in a disinfectant solution.

## 4 Surgical Steps

Limbs are massaged to relieve the stiffening of the joints and muscles.

Any necessary shaving would also take place at this time.

## 2 Setting the Facial Features

Your loved ones eyes are closed



Real level closed eyes are closed using glue or plastic eye caps that sit on the eye and hold the eyelid in place.

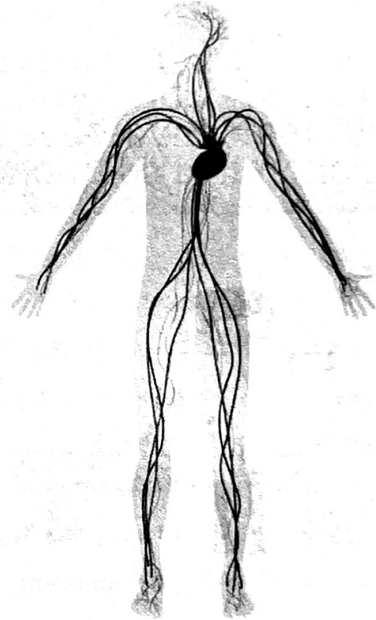
The lower jaw is secured by wires or sewing. Once the jaw is secured the mouth can be manipulated into the desired position.



### 3 Arterial Embalming

For Arterial Embalming, the blood is removed from the body through the veins and replaced with formaldehyde-based chemicals through the arteries.

The Embalming solution may also contain glutaraldehyde, methanol, ethanol, phenol, water and dyes.

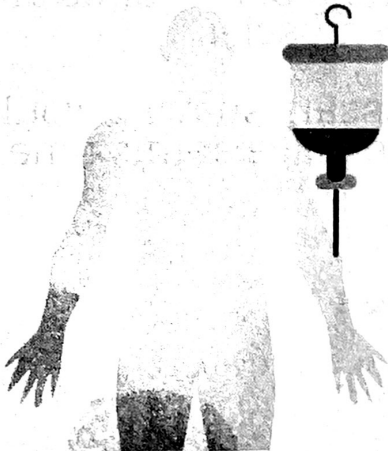


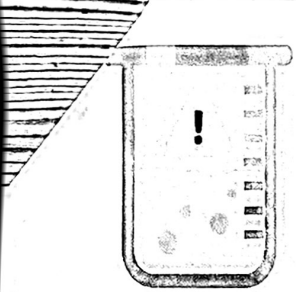
### 4 Cavity Embalming

A small incision is made in the lower part of the deceased's abdomen.

A trocar (a sharp surgical instrument) is inserted into the body cavity.

The organs in the chest cavity and





the abdomen are then punctured and drained of gas and fluid contents.

Formaldehyde-based chemicals are then injected.

Once the incision is sutured, the body is fully embalmed.

**Next**



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