

Community Funerals

Community Spirit



Offices in Atherton, Cairns, Mareeba & Mossman

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Questions to consider before meeting with your Funeral Director

The most common statement we hear when people contact us is 'We don't know where to start'. To help you gather your thoughts, we have developed a compressive list of questions that will help you focus. You do not need to answer any, or all of the questions prior to meeting with a Community Funerals Funeral Arranger. These questions will guide your discussions with other family and friends and help you prepare for the discussion with your Funeral Director.

1. Which family member, partner or friend will be the main contact for arranging the funeral ?
2. Do you have the information required to register the death ? Your Funeral Director will register the death on your behalf and help you locate any missing information. A Death Registration form can be found on our website www.communityfunerals.com.au
3. Does the deceased person have a written funeral plan of their wishes ?
4. Does the deceased person have any Funeral Insurance or a Funeral Bond ? If so, do you have a copy of the policy or do you know the name of the provider?
5. Is there a preference for Burial or Cremation ?
6. Where would you like to hold the funeral service ? Would you prefer a church, funeral chapel, community venue, outdoor venue or a private family service ?
7. If burial is preferred, what cemetery is to be used ?
8. If burial is preferred is there already a reserved plot, or preferred part of the cemetery ?
9. If burial is preferred would you prefer a headstone or a plaque in the lawn section ?
10. Who would you like to conduct the funeral ceremony ? Would you like to use our Funeral Celebrant or do you have a preferred minister, priest or celebrant ?
11. Would you like a viewing of your loved one ? When would you like to hold the viewing ?
12. What clothing would you like the deceased person dressed in and who will provide these to the Funeral Director ?

13. Is the deceased wearing any valuables, jewellery, rings or other valuables that you would like returned ?
14. Do you have any special items to place in the coffin or casket eg. religious symbols, photos, letters or personal belongings ?
15. What variety, colour or style of flowers would you like placed on the coffin or casket ?
16. Would you like any charities mentioned in the funeral notice or at the service ? Some people prefer donations in lieu of flowers and we can have donation envelopes available at the service
17. Would you like to nominate Pall Bearers to carry the coffin or casket ?
18. Would you like a printed service sheet, card, bookmark or booklet ?
19. Would you like any newspaper notices ? What newspapers would you prefer ?
20. Is there any special music that you would like played at the service ?
21. Would you like a musician piper or organist to play at the service ?
22. Will a eulogy be read at the service ? Who will write the eulogy and who will read it?
23. Is the deceased a War Veteran or previous member of the services, and would you like the RSL involved in the service ?
24. Would you like to involve any clubs or social groups in the service ?
25. Would you like an audiovisual presentation at the service ? Please note that audiovisual presentations are not appropriate in some venues
26. Would you like a release of balloons or butterflies at the service ?
27. Would you like the funeral service web-streamed or professionally recorded ?
28. If cremation is preferred would you like to purchase an Urn for the ashes
29. Are you holding a wake or gathering after the service ? If so, where will you hold the gathering and who will be responsible for organising this