Funeral Planning

Planning a funeral can feel overwhelming, but breaking it into simple steps can help you honor your loved one with care and respect.

Pre-Arrangements

Check for any **pre-arrangements** your loved one may have made, such as **funeral insurance**, a **prepaid burial plot**, or **specific memorial wishes** like songs, locations, or flowers. Begin **drafting an obituary** that includes their full name, age, date of passing, key life details, surviving family members, and service information.

Choosing a Funeral Home

If no funeral home was pre-selected, search for "**funeral homes near me**" and look for positive reviews. Contact a few to compare services, costs, and timelines. During your meeting, discuss the **type of service**, such as religious or military, and decide on burial or cremation.

Arranging the Service

Set the **date** and **location** for the service. If your loved one was religious, contact their place of worship to **arrange an officiant**. **Publish the obituary** in a local newspaper and online to share details. Invite loved ones, select readings, music, or scriptures, and consider creating a **memory board** or display.

Personal Details

Choose a **grave marker**, if needed, that reflects your loved one's personality. Select **clothing** and any **personal items** for their burial or viewing. If desired, **schedule a visitation** to allow friends and family time to say goodbye.

After the Service

- Send **thank-you notes** to those who attended or supported you.
- **Finalize** any remaining details with the funeral home.
- Obtain **death certificates** and handle necessary **legal** and **financial matters**.
- Lean on your **support system** while you grieve.