



2010 FCAME Mortuary Price Survey

This survey of funeral establishments in Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia was conducted earlier this year by the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Maryland and Environs (FCAME). The prices quoted in this survey have been taken from the General Price List (GPL), obtained between February and July 2010, for each funeral establishment listed. A few prices have been updated or clarified as a result of more recent phone conversations, but the prices are subject to revision at any time. It is prudent to call and confirm actual prices at the time of need, as well as the exact services provided for each charge, as they vary from one establishment to another.

Inclusion in this survey does not constitute any endorsement by the FCAME. Establishments not listed did not provide us with a price list.

- See the notes on page 7-10 to learn exactly how this survey was conducted and what the terms “direct cremation” and “immediate burial” in the context of this survey mean.
- The prices given for direct cremation do not include a cremation container (in most cases) or an urn.
- The prices given for immediate burial do not include caskets, vaults, burial plots, costs associated with opening and closing a grave, monuments, or services of any kind, except as noted.
- Numbers in parentheses refer to additional information noted at the end of the survey. Check before comparing prices.

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Maryland and DC	Going Home Cremation Service, 410-442-3662 or 1-866-728-4663	\$895 (4)	NA
	MARYLAND		
All of Maryland	Maryland Cremation Services, 410-960-7525 or 1-888-960-7525	\$875 (5)	NA
Aberdeen, MD	Tarring-Cargo Funeral Home, 410-272-4500	\$1850	\$2895
	William C. Brown Community Funeral Home, 410-272-5100	\$2010	\$1750
Abingdon, MD	McComas Funeral Home, 410-676-4600	\$2250	\$3580 (3)
Accident, MD	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-895-5188	\$1558	\$2227
Annapolis, MD	Advent Funeral and Cremation Services, 410-573-1486	\$1745	\$3095
	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-897-4852	\$2385	\$2855 (3)
	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-263-2222	\$1915	\$3495
	John M. Taylor Funeral Home, 410-263-4422 (Stewart)	\$1935	\$2175
Arbutus, MD	Ambrose Funeral Home, 410-242-2211	\$1850	\$1775
Baltimore, MD	Bailey Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-609-0009	\$1245	\$1495
	Beverly D. Cromartie Funeral Service, 410-400-3440	\$895 (2)	\$650
	Burgee-Henss-Seitz Funeral Home, 410-889-3735 (SCI)	\$3195	\$3595
	Calvin B. Scruggs, Sr. Memorial Chapel, 410-837-4926	\$1100	\$1500
	Charisse N. Woods Funeral Services, 443-851-1874	\$775	\$1500
	Charles S. Zeiler & Son, 410-276-3588 (SCI)	\$2590	\$2695
	Connelly Funeral Home of Essex, 410-687-7100	\$2420 (1)	\$3020
	Cremation and Funeral Alternatives, 410-321-1005	\$895	\$1125
	Cremation Society of Maryland, 410-788-1800	\$1060 (6)	NA
	Cvach/Rosedale Funeral Home, 410-682-2467	\$1412 (1)	\$2379
	David J. Weber Funeral Homes (Chester Street), 410-276-6600	\$1750 (2)	\$1750
	David J. Weber Funeral Homes (Edmondson Ave), 410-624-7432	\$1750 (2)	\$1750
	The Derrick C. Jones Funeral Home, 410-542-1900	\$1295 (2)	\$2350
	Evans Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services, 410-665-9444	\$2980 (2)	\$3520
	Gary P. March Funeral Home, 410-945-1100	\$1000 (2)	\$1350

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Baltimore, MD	Hari P. Close Funeral Service, 410-327-3100	\$1000 (2)	\$1300
	James A. Morton & Sons Funeral Homes, 410-728-1100	\$950 (1)	\$1500
	John L. Williams Funeral Directors, 410-218-6137	\$650 (2)	\$1100
	Joseph G. Locks, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-685-7555	\$1500	\$1500
	Joseph L. Russ Funeral Home (East Jefferson St), 410-676-1112	\$1100	\$1100
	Joseph L. Russ Funeral Home (West North Ave.), 410-523-3361	\$1100	\$1100
	Joseph N. Zannino, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-327-4220	\$1745 (2)	\$2295
	Kaczorowski Funeral Home, 410-633-0000	\$1620	\$1255
	Lassahn Funeral Home, 410-665-2000	\$2125 (2)	\$2675
	Leonard J. Ruck, 410-426-1517	\$2580	\$2965 (3)
	Lilly Zeiler Funeral Home (Eastern Avenue), 410-327-1442	\$1360	\$1950
	Lilly Zeiler Funeral Home (Conkling St), 410-342-1222	\$1360	\$1950
	Loudon Park Funeral Home, 410-644-1900 (Stewart)	\$1935	\$2175
	March Funeral Homes (Wabash Ave.), 410-542-2400	\$1295 (1)	\$1295
	March Funeral Homes (E. North Ave.), 410-727-3300	\$1295 (1)	\$1295
	Marzullo Funeral Chapel, 410-254-5201	\$955 (2)	\$1890
	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home (S. Baltimore), 410-752-6456	\$1510 (1)	\$1795
	Miller-Dippel Funeral Home, 410-426-7171 (SCI)	\$2590	\$2695
	Mitchell-Wiedefeld Funeral Home, 410-377-8300	\$1975 (1)	\$1305
	Nancy M. Wallace Funeral Service, 410-566-8315	\$850 (1)	\$1300
	Parker Funeral Home, 410-945-4665	\$1400 (2)	\$1500
	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 410-962-8290	\$1550	\$3850
	The Phillip A. Weatherford Funeral Services, 410-327-7700	\$1000	\$2000 (3)
	Vaughn Greene East, 410-433-7500	\$1295 (1)	\$1095
	Vaughn Greene West, 410-233-2400	\$1295 (1)	\$1095
	Vaughn Greene Wildwood, 410-945-2700	\$1295 (1)	\$1095
	William C. Brown Community Funeral Home, 410-728-8422	\$2010	\$1750
Barnesville, MD	Hilton Funeral Home, 301-349-2135	\$2355	\$1545
Bel Air, MD	McComas Funeral Home, 410-838-4040	\$2250	\$3580 (3)
	Schimunek Funeral Home, 410-638-5360	\$1840	\$2295
Beltsville, MD	Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home	\$2520	\$2500 (3)
Berlin, MD	Jolley Memorial Chapel, 410-641-6584	\$1850 (1)	\$2535
Bethesda, MD	Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home, 301-652-2200	\$3760	\$4110
Boonesboro, MD	Bast-Stauffer Funeral Home, 301-432-8388	\$3065	\$3405 (3)
Bowie, MD	Beall Funeral Home, 301-805-5544	\$1385	\$1850
	Robert E. Evans Funeral Home, 301-464-8836 (SCI)	\$3550	\$3595
Brentwood, MD	Fort Lincoln Funeral Home, 301-864-5090 (Stewart)	\$1885	\$2125
Brooklyn, MD	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home, 410-355-1185	\$1510 (1)	\$1795
Brunswick, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-834-7000	\$3495	\$3770 (3)
Cambridge, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-228-7459	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Curran-Bromwell Funeral Home, 410-228-2616	\$2195	\$2455
	Henry Funeral Home, 410-228-8220	\$945	\$1395
Camp Springs, MD	Strickland Funeral Services, 301-449-0400	\$1450	\$1250
	Wiseman Funeral Home, 301-899-2005	\$1775	\$2050
Catonsville, MD	MacNabb Funeral Home, 410-747-4770	\$1060	\$1295
	Sterling-Ashton-Schwab-Witzke, 410-744-8600 (SCI)	\$3550	\$3595
Charlotte Hall, MD	Brinsfield-Echols Funeral Home, 301-472-4400	\$2245	\$2515

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Chesapeake City	R.T. Foard Funeral Home, 410-885-5916	\$3480	\$3625
Chestertown, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-778-0055	\$3465	\$3220
Columbia, MD	Witzke Funeral Homes, 410-992-9090 (SCI)	\$3550	\$3595
Cumberland, MD	Upchurch Funeral Home, 301-724-2250	\$1450	\$1900
Damascus, MD	Molesworth-Williams Funeral Home, 301-253-2138	\$2615 (1)	\$2770 (3)
Dundalk, MD	Bradley-Ashton Funeral Home, 410-284-2600	\$1200 (1)	\$1740
	Connelly Funeral Home of Dundalk, 410-285-2900	\$1350 (1)	\$1895
	Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk, 410-288-4664	\$2580	\$2965 (3)
Easton, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-822-7228	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-822-3131	\$3610	\$3505 (3)
Edgewater, MD	George P. Kalas Funeral Home, 410-956-4488	\$1995	\$3110
Eldersburg, MD	Jeffrey N. Zumbrun Funeral Home., 410-795-2299	\$1295 (1)	\$1500
Elkridge, MD	Gary L. Kaufman Funeral Home, 410-796-8024 (SCI)	\$3550	\$3595
Elkton, MD	R.T. Foard and Gee, 410-398-3388	\$3480	\$3625
Ellicott City, MD	Harry H. Witzke's Family Funeral Home, 410-465-2848	\$1995 (2)	\$2470
	Slack Funeral Home, 410-465-4400	\$2650 (1)	\$2365
Emmitsburg, MD	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 301-447-6244	\$1450	\$1550
Federalsburg, MD	Frampton Funeral Home, 410-754-8888	\$1675	\$1675
Forest Hill, MD	Evans Funeral Chapel – Bel Air, 410-893-7575	\$2400 (2)	\$2920
Forestville, MD	Pope Funeral Home, Forestville Chapel, 301-568-4100	\$1695 (2)	\$2095
Frederick, MD	Keeney & Basford Funeral Home, 301-662-2175	\$2670 (1)	\$2670
	Resthaven Funeral Services, Skkot Cody, 301-898-1577	\$1750	\$1880
	Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, 301-662-5966	\$3170	\$3710 (3)
	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-663-1690	\$3495	\$3770 (3)
Friendsville, MD	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-895-5188	\$1558	\$2227
Frostburg, MD	Sowers Funeral Home, 301-689-8866	\$1855	\$2380 (3)
Gaithersburg, MD	DeVol Funeral Home, 301-948-6800	\$2750	\$3000
	Thibadeau Mortuary Service, 301-495-4950	\$995	\$1250
Galena, MD	Galena Funeral Home of Stephen L. Schaech, 410-648-5338	\$2255	\$2450
Galesville, MD	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-263-2222	\$1915	\$3495
Gambrills, MD	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-923-2601	\$1915	\$3495
Glen Burnie, MD	Fink Funeral Home, 410-766-5690	\$1595	\$2555
	Kirkley-Ruddick Funeral Home, 410-766-2200	\$1575	\$1495
	Singleton Funeral and Cremation Services, 410-766-7070	\$3060 (1)	\$3670
Greensboro, MD	Fleagle and Helfenbein Funeral Home, 410-482-8914	\$2262 (2)	\$2456
Hagerstown, MD	Andrew K. Coffman Funeral Home, 301-739-1444	\$2200 (1)	\$2750 (3)
	Douglas A. Fiery Funeral Home, 301-791-7759	\$3175 (2)	\$3060
	Minnich Funeral Home, 301-739-6800	\$2285	\$3083
	Rest Haven Funeral Chapel, 301-733-3575	\$1995	\$2195
Havre de Grace, MD	Lisa Scott Funeral Home, 410-939-4940	\$2500 (1)	\$2600
	Zellman Funeral Home, 410-939-2882	\$2600	\$3550 (3)
Hurlock, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-943-4488	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
Hyattsville, MD	Gasch's Funeral Home, 301-927-6100	\$1500 (1)	\$1405 (3)
Indian Head, MD	Thornton Funeral Home, 301-375-7855	\$1525	\$1465
	Williams Funeral Home, 301-743-5478	\$1780	\$650
Jarrettsville, MD	E.G. Kurtz & Son Funeral Home, 410-692-6000	\$1430	\$2050
Jessup, MD	Howell Funeral Home, 301-604-0101	\$2000 (2)	\$2000

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Kingsville, MD	E. F. Lassahn Funeral Home, 410-592-6100	\$2125 (2)	\$2675
Kitzmilller, MD	David A. Burdock Funeral Home, 301-453-3397	\$2175	\$2975 (3)
La Plata, MD	Arehart – Echols Funerals Home, 301-934-8342	\$2145	\$2515
	Raymond Funeral Service, 301-934-2920 or 1-800-924-2030	\$2195	\$1995
Landover, MD	J.B. Jenkins Funeral Home, 301-322-2300	\$1050	\$1800
Lansdowne, MD	Ambrose Funeral Home of Lansdowne, 410-242-2211	\$1850	\$1775
Laurel, MD	Donaldson Funeral Home, 301-725-1690	\$2205	\$1995
	Fleck Funeral Home, 301-490-0606 (SCI)	\$2590	\$2995
Laytonsville, MD	Muriel H. Barber Funeral Home, 301-948-3500	\$2050	\$3000
Libertytown, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1695	\$2110 (3)
Lonaconing, MD	Eichhorn-McKenzie Funeral Home, 301-463-5535	\$1250 (1)	\$1295
Lusby, MD	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-326-9400	\$2210	\$2420 (3)
Manchester, MD	Eckhardt Funeral Chapel, 410-374-2626	\$1635 (1)	\$1980
Middletown, MD	Donald B. Thompson Funeral Home, 301-371-6070	\$2795 (1)	\$3795
Midland, MD	Eichhorn-McKenzie Funeral Home, 301-463-4042	\$1250 (1)	\$1295
Millington, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-928-5311	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
Monkton, MD	Evans Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services, 410-343-3000	\$2400 (2)	\$2920
Mt. Airy, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-829-9410	\$3495	\$3770 (3)
New Windsor, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1695	\$2110 (3)
North East, MD	Crouch Funeral Home, 410-287-6166	\$2940 (1)	\$3550 (3)
Nottingham, MD	Schimunek Funeral Home, 410-256-3600	\$1840	\$2295
Oakland, MD	David A. Burdock Funeral Home, 301-334-3388	\$2175	\$2975 (3)
	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-533-1960	\$1558	\$2227
Owings, MD	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-257-6181	\$2210	\$2420 (3)
Owings Mills, MD	Eckhardt Funeral Chapel, 410-356-7676	\$1635 (1)	\$1980
Oxon Hill, MD	George P. Kalas Funeral Home, 301-567-9424	\$1995	\$3110
Pasadena, MD	Daugherty Family Funeral Home & Cremation Ctr, 410-439-4510	\$1145	\$1295
	Gregory J. Gonce Funeral Home, 410-255-2650	\$1230	\$1775 (3)
	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home, 410-255-2381	\$1510 (1)	\$1795
	Stallings Funeral Home, 410-360-1770	\$1575 (2)	\$1650
Pikesville, MD	Sol Levinson & Bros, 410-653-8900	\$1900 (2)	\$2680
Pocomoke City, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-957-0080	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Holloway Funeral Home, 410-957-0224	\$1920	\$2940
Port Republic, MD	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-586-0520	\$2210	\$2420 (3)
Princess Anne, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-957-0080	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Hinman Funeral Home, 410-651-0990	\$2000 (2)	\$2545
Randallstown, MD	Wylie Funeral Homes, 410-655-9200	\$1750 (2)	\$1325
	Vaughn Greene Randallstown, 410-655-0015	\$1295 (1)	\$1095
Reistertown, MD	Eline Funeral Home, 410-833-1414	\$1695 (1)	\$1985
Rising Sun, MD	R.T. Foard Funeral Home, 410-658-6030	\$3480	\$3625
Rockville, MD	Danzansky-Goldberg Memorial Chapels, 301-340-1400 (SCI)	\$5720	\$5425
	Edward Sagel Funeral Direction, 301-217-9400 (SCI)	\$2695	\$5010
	Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home, 301-762-3939	\$3760	\$4110
	Simple Tribute Funeral & Cremation Ctr, 301-545-0960 (Stewart)	\$995	\$1400
	Snowden Funeral Home, 301-762-2500	\$1650	\$1840
Salisbury, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-546-0626	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Holloway Funeral Home, 410-742-5141	\$1920	\$2940

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Salisbury, MD	Jolley Memorial Chapel, 410-749-6461	\$1850 (1)	\$2535
Severna Park, MD	Barranco & Sons, 410-647-2400	\$2295	\$2995
Silver Spring, MD	Francis J. Collins Funeral Home, 301-593-9500	\$2075	\$2775
	Hines – Rinaldi Funeral Home, 301-622-2290 (Stewart)	\$1935	\$2175
	Philip D. Rinaldi Funeral Service, 301-585-4050	\$975	\$1195
	RAPP Funeral and Cremation Services, 301-565-4100	\$1070	\$1395
Suitland, MD	Cedar Hill Funeral Home, 301-817-0120	\$1480	\$1995
	Marshall’s Funeral Home of Maryland, 301-736-1616	\$1395 (1)	\$1800
Sykesville, MD	Haight Funeral Home and Chapel, 410-795-1400	\$1875 (2)	\$1570
Taneytown, MD	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 410-756-6688	\$1450	\$1550
Temple Hills, MD	Ralph Williams II Funeral Service, 301-262-2387	\$1395	\$1795
Thurmont, MD	Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, 301-271-2404	\$3170	\$3710 (3)
	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-271-7777	\$3495	\$3770 (3)
Timonium, MD	John O. Mitchell, Funeral Services Dulaney Valley, 410-628-1930	\$1495 (1)	\$1200
	Lemmon Funeral Home of Dulaney Valley, 410-252-6000 (SCI)	\$3550	\$3595
	Peaceful Alternatives Funeral & Cremation Center, 410-252-8720	\$1240 (2)	\$1125
Towson, MD	The Johnson Funeral Home, 410-668-2300	\$1635 (1)	\$1950
	Ruck Towson Funeral Home, 410-823-1700	\$2580	\$2965 (3)
Union Bridge, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1695	\$2110 (3)
Walkersville, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-845-8091	\$3495	\$3770 (3)
Westminster, MD	Fletcher Funeral Home, 410-848-7575	\$1935	\$1865
	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 410-848-3933	\$1450	\$1550
	Pritts Funeral Home and Chapel, 410-848-7533	\$1825	\$2200
White Plains, MD	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 301-638-9311	\$1550	\$3850
Williamsport, MD	Osborne Funeral Home, 301-582-3311	\$2640 (1)	\$3490
Winfield, MD	Burrier-Queen Funeral Home, 410-795-0300	\$1635 (1)	\$2025
Woodsboro, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1695	\$2110 (3)
Worton, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-778-2161	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
DC (NW)	Bianchi Funeral Service, 202-529-5579	\$2100 (2)	\$2095
DC (NW)	DeVol Funeral Home, 202-333-6680	\$2750	\$3000
DC (NW)	Genesis Cremation and Funeral Services, 202-291-7101	\$860	\$1630
DC (NW)	Hackett’s Funeral Chapel, 202-829-0243	\$ 2100	\$3495
DC (NW)	Hall Brothers Funeral Home, 202-234-3370	\$1950	\$2155
DC (NW)	House of Williams Funeral & Cremation Services, 202-723-6777	\$1595	\$1795
DC (NW)	Hysong Company, 202-628-8420	\$1320	\$1530
DC (NW)	Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home, 202-882-8800	\$1250	\$1750
DC (NW)	Joseph Gawler’s Sons, 202-966-6400 (SCI)	\$6400	\$6400
DC (NW)	Latney’s Funeral Home, 202-882-2455	\$1175	\$1016
DC (NW)	Marshall’s Funeral Home, 202-723-1250	\$1395 (1)	\$1800
DC (NW)	Murray & Tellington Funeral Home, 202-545-1400	\$650	\$1050
DC (NW)	R.N. Horton Company Morticians, 202-829-9000	\$1770	\$1910
DC (NW)	Robinson Funeral Home, 202-387-5984	\$2710	\$2500 (3)
DC (NW)	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 202-882-2732	\$1550	\$3850
DC (NW)	Santa Cruz Servicios Funerarios, 202-829-2106	\$1770	\$1910
DC (NW)	Snead’s Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 202-726-4400	\$1625	\$2500
DC (NW)	Torchinsky Hebrew Funeral Home, 202-541-1001	\$2995	\$3820 (7)

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
DC (NW)	Universal II Mortuary, 202-723-1075	\$1305 (2)	\$1930
DC (NW)	Watson's Funeral Home, 202-234-7770	\$1595	\$1995
DC (NE)	Bonnette & Associates Funeral Home, 202-269-6220	\$1300	\$1300
DC (NE)	Henry S. Washington & Sons, 202-398-6700	\$1250	\$1780
DC (NE)	John T. Rhines Funeral Home, 202-529-4300	\$1300	\$1335 (3)
DC (NE)	Pinckney-Spangler Funeral Home, 202-544-7720	\$1450	\$1200
DC (NE)	Stewart Funeral Home, 202-399-3600	\$1126	\$1335
DC (SE)	Pope Funeral Home, Washington Chapel, 202-583-5400	\$1695 (2)	\$2095
DC (SE)	Mason Funeral Home, 202-678-7700	\$1295	\$2050
	DELAWARE		
Bridgeville, DE	Parsell Funeral Homes, Hardesty Chapel, 302-337-8594	\$2795	\$2950
Claymont, DE	Gebhart Funeral Home, 302-798-7726	\$2885	\$3065
Delaware City, DE	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-834-4524	\$2770	\$2770
Dover, DE	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation S., 302-678-8747	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Funeral Home of Michael J. Ambrusco, 302-734-2281	\$1880	\$2315
	Trader Funeral Home, 302-734-4620	\$2095 (1)	\$2250
Elsmere, DE	Krienen-Griffith Funeral Home, 302-994-9614	\$2213	\$2787
Felton, DE	Berry-Short Funeral Home, 302-422-8091	\$1700 (1)	\$2950
Frankford, DE	Melson Funeral Services Frankford Chapel, 302-732-9000	\$2195	\$2850
Georgetown, DE	Parsell Funeral Homes, Dodd-Carey Chapel, 302-856-2880	\$2795	\$2950
	Short Funeral Services, 302-684-8521	\$1700 (1)	\$2950
Hockessin, DE	Chandler Funeral Homes & Crematory, 302-478-7100	\$2675	\$3110
Lewes, DE	Parsell Funeral Homes, Atkin-Lodge Chapel, 302-645-9520	\$2795	\$2950
Milford, DE	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation S., 302-442-5955	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Berry-Short Funeral Home, 302-422-8091	\$1700 (1)	\$2950
Millsboro, DE	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation S., 302-934-9019	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Melson Funeral Services Long Neck Chapel, 302-945-9000	\$2195	\$2850
	Watson Funeral Home, 302-934-7842	\$2456	\$1871
Milton, DE	Short Funeral Services, 302-684-8521	\$1700 (1)	\$2950
New Castle, DE	Gebhart Funeral Home, 302-328-2312	\$2885	\$3065
	Krienen-Griffith Funeral Home, 302-328-9300	\$2213	\$2787
	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-328-2213	\$2770	\$2770
Newark, DE	Beeson Funeral Home, 302-453-1900	\$2885	\$3065
	R.T. Foard and Jones, 302-731-4627	\$3480	\$3625
	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-368-9500	\$2770	\$2770
	Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 302-731-5459	\$1795	\$2080
Newport, DE	Nichols-Gilmore Funeral Home, 302-998-8013	\$1750	\$1995
Ocean View, DE	Melson Funeral Services Ocean View Chapel, 302-537-2441	\$2195	\$2850
	Parsell Funeral Homes, Clarksville Chapel, 302-537-1600	\$2795	\$2950
Seaford, DE	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation S., 302-628-8280	\$2065 (1)	\$2340
	Cranston Funeral Home, 302-629-9237	\$1695	\$1395
Smyrna, DE	Matthews-Bryson Funeral Home, 302 653-2900	\$2685	\$2790 (3)
Wilmington, DE	Beeson Funeral Home, 302-764-2900	\$2885	\$3065
	Chandler Funeral Homes & Crematory, 302-478-7100	\$2675	\$3110
	Dougherty Funeral Home, Delaware Ave., 302-652-6811	\$3430	\$3830 (3)
	Dougherty Funeral Home, Limestone Rd., 302-999-8277	\$3430	\$3830 (3)
	Mealey Funeral Home, Limestone & Milltown, 302-654-3005	\$1795	\$1995

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Wilmington, DE	Mealey Funeral Home, N. Broom St, 302-652-5913	\$1795	\$1995
	McCrery Memorial Funeral Home, Concord P., 302-478-2204	\$3230	\$2545
	McCrery Memorial Chapel, Kirkwood Highway 302-478-2204	\$3230	\$2545
	Schoenberg Memorial Chapel, 302-762-0334	\$1550	\$2100
Wyoming, DE	Pippin Funeral Home, 302-697-7002	\$1150	\$2025

Explanatory Notes

(SCI) Owned by Service Corporation International, a large national chain of funeral homes and cemeteries.

(Stewart) Owned by Stewart, another national chain of funeral homes and cemeteries.

- (1) Does not include the crematory fee – either stated on the GPL or confirmed by phone.
- (2) The GPL does not state whether the crematory fee is included or not – you could call to find out.
- (3) May include a simple graveside service – either stated on the GPL or confirmed by phone.
- (4) Additional transport fee added for transportation east of the Bay Bridge, north of the Susquehanna River, or west of Hagerstown. The service uses a free-standing crematory in Woodbine, MD but usually meets with families at their home. This package includes a minimum cremation container.
- (5) Additional transportation fees for travel more than 50 miles from the free-standing crematory in Woodbine, MD. Arrangements are made at the place of death or the family’s home or over the phone. Minimum cremation container included. There is an additional fee of \$450 if the death occurs in DC or VA.
- (6) This business is related to and across the street from MacNabb Funeral Home (listed under Catonsville). It encourages people to preplan and sign up as “members” for \$15 in advance, for which they are issued a membership card identifying The Cremation Society as their provider of choice. Members may prepay for cremation at a slight discount from the usual fee (currently \$1045 vs. the usual fee of \$1060), but additional cost would be incurred if the death took place outside the local area.
- (7) This price does not include ritual Taharah (washing of the body) but it is available for an additional fee.

Survey Methodology

In February 2010, letters were sent to each licensed funeral establishment we could identify in Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia requesting its general price list (GPL). We obtained lists of funeral providers from the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors as well as the District of Columbia Board of Funeral Directors. Some establishments in the District of Columbia were identified from the phone book in addition to those obtained from the DC Board. Funeral establishments in Delaware were identified using the internet and local contacts because we were unable to obtain a list of funeral establishments from the DE Board of Funeral Service. Volunteers phoned or visited many funeral homes that did not respond to the initial letter. However, given the large area the FCAME covers, it was not possible to visit or even phone every establishment that failed to send a GPL. A number of funeral establishments contacted by phone after they did not respond to our letter either did not return our phone call(s), or agreed to fax or mail us their GPL, but then failed to do so. We list only those establishments for which we were able to obtain an actual GPL.

The information provided here represents a good faith effort to obtain accurate prices and information. However, it should not be relied upon entirely, as prices are subject to change at any time, and the information included in a GPL is not always complete. In many cases, information from the GPL was supplemented by a phone call for clarification about the charges listed or to inquire about the charges for direct cremation or immediate burial exclusive of the cost of a container or casket when those were not specifically stated on the GPL. However, we were unable to phone every establishment that clearly listed these charges but failed to clarify whether the crematory fee was included in the charge for direct cremation, and we have noted those instances in which it is unclear in our survey. We made note of the fact that several establishments either stated on the GPL or told us in a

phone conversation that they are willing to provide the family a simple graveside service with an immediate burial. Some others specifically state on the GPL that no service is included, but many make no mention of it one way or another, and we were unable to phone every establishment for clarification, so there may be some establishments willing to provide this service that are not identified in our survey.

Every funeral establishment is required by a Federal Trade Commission regulation, known as the Funeral Rule, to provide a GPL to anyone who asks for it in person and to provide specific price information to anyone who asks for it over the phone. So in addition to using this survey as a starting point for information about which establishments may be more cost effective than others, you may find it helpful to use it as a source of information with which to compare prices you can get over the phone from establishments not listed here.

Explanatory Remarks

Individual taste and priorities will influence the arrangements you choose. You may not want to use the specific services reported in this survey, but because it is not practical to list more than a sampling of services offered, we have chosen to list the two most basic options a funeral establishment may provide – direct cremation and immediate burial. Those options typically do not include any embalming, ceremonies, or viewings. Charges for these services vary widely among funeral providers in our area. The price and quality of the minimal cremation containers or caskets that funeral establishments typically provide for direct cremation or immediate burial vary significantly. Because of that, we elected to list in our survey the prices charged for direct cremation and immediate burial exclusive of any merchandise such as a casket or cremation container (the container a body is cremated in). It is hard to make meaningful price comparisons when those components are included

Direct Cremation

The price quoted is the price listed on the GPL as “direct cremation with container provided by purchaser” meaning it does not include the container in which the body is cremated. This is the base price, to which the cost of any cremation container, whether it is purchased elsewhere or from the funeral establishment, must be added. Some crematories do not require the use of a cremation container and will simply supply an inexpensive pouch or minimum tray for the same price.

Unless otherwise stated, the direct cremation price quoted *typically* includes:

- transportation (within a reasonable distance) of the deceased to the mortuary and to the crematory;
- the costs (basic services) of the funeral director and staff;
- securing of all necessary permits and authorizations (except as noted below);
- the crematory fee; and
- return of the cremated remains to the family in a simple, temporary container either by mail or by having the family pick them up at the funeral establishment.

It does not include the use of facilities for viewing, either at the funeral home or at the crematory. It usually does not include the medical examiner’s fee for approval of cremation if the death occurs in DC (\$75), VA (\$50), WV or PA (\$25) and the courier’s fee for obtaining it, particularly if the mortuary is located outside of DC. There is no fee for this when the death occurs in MD.

Some establishments do not include the crematory fee in their charge for a direct cremation. When this is the case and the crematory fee is stated elsewhere in the GPL or we obtained it by phone, we have added it and included it in the price we quote in our survey. If the GPL states the crematory fee is not included but does not quote the fee, we simply note that it is not included in the price we quote. When the GPL does not state whether the crematory fee is included or not and we did not have occasion to clarify the situation over the phone, we note that fact. Crematory fees vary from \$175 to \$615 in our area.

Cremation containers can cost as much as \$3900. Funeral establishments are required to offer a relatively inexpensive “alternative container” for cremation, but the least expensive one offered by any given establishment varies from as little as \$15 for a simple cardboard box or canvas or vinyl pouch to as much as \$690. If an establishment does not offer one of the simplest, least expensive containers for cremation, you could purchase one elsewhere and use it if you prefer, as long as it conforms to the requirements of the crematory. In general, the establishments that charge higher prices for direct cremation are less likely to offer the least expensive types of cremation containers, but might if asked to do so. It pays to call and find out. An urn to store the cremated ashes (cremains) might add between \$45 and \$4250 to the overall cost.

Immediate Burial

The price quoted is the price listed on the GPL as “immediate burial with casket provided by purchaser.” This is the base price, to which the cost of a casket, whether it is purchased elsewhere or from the funeral establishment, must be added.

Unless otherwise noted, the price listed for immediate burial includes:

- transfer of the deceased from the place of death to the mortuary and to the place of burial;
- the costs (basic services) of the funeral director and staff;
- securing of the necessary authorizations and permits; and
- minimal preparation of the body for purposes of identification only.

It does not include:

- embalming (which costs from \$300 to \$1740 and is usually not required by law although a funeral establishment may require it for visitations or viewings using its facilities);
- the cost of a cemetery plot, opening and closing the grave, a liner or vault, or any marker or monument.

It typically does not include any ceremony, visitation, or viewing. A minority of funeral homes may be willing to include a simple graveside service for a few family members with or without clergy (which otherwise might cost between \$250 - \$700 in addition to cemetery fees). We have noted that in a footnote when it was stated in the GPL or we happened to glean that information in a phone conversation, and there might be others willing to provide such a service if asked. But other funeral establishments state in their GPL that they provide transportation and burial at the convenience of the funeral home instead of at the convenience of the family, when immediate burial is chosen.

The price quoted typically includes little or no preparation of the body, and there may be additional charges for washing, dressing and further preparation if desired. Some establishments simply wrap the body in a sheet for immediate burial. If the body is not embalmed, some funeral homes require the use of a body pouch at an additional cost. There may be other charges not explicitly mentioned in the GPL as being included or excluded.

The minimum casket offered by a funeral home is most often cloth-covered wood or fiberboard, costing between \$500 and \$850. But some offer a plain pine box for as little as \$400 and others offer nothing less than a steel casket costing more than \$1000. The majority of caskets are priced between \$1500 and \$8000, but they may range in price up to \$125,000, as listed in one casket price list we reviewed. Details on casket prices are usually not found on the GPL itself but in a separate casket price list. The Funeral Rule requires funeral establishments to offer a prospective purchaser the casket price list as soon as caskets or alternative containers are discussed, before the caskets are actually shown. Families are free to purchase a casket elsewhere. Funeral providers are forbidden by the Funeral Rule to charge more for their services if a casket purchased elsewhere is used. Some funeral homes are willing to provide a less expensive casket than is listed on their GPLs when requested to do so. It pays to call and find out the particulars. Most cemeteries require a vault because it makes cemetery maintenance easier. Vaults range typically in price from \$595 to \$4000, but they may cost as much as \$25,500.

Additional Considerations

In spite of the fact that the prices quoted do not include ceremonies, viewings, or visitations, as well as items such as cremation containers, urns, caskets, or other burial merchandise, there remains some variation in what is actually provided for the prices listed. You should call and find out the details for particular establishments you are interested in comparing. Some variation in price can also be attributed to overhead for buildings, staff, and amenities that may be valued by some purchasers, but perhaps not by those looking for simpler, cost-effective arrangements.

You should also be aware that these prices do not include discretionary items such as multiple certified copies of death certificates (typically \$12 to \$20 per copy), obituaries, flowers, cards, and limousines. They do not include transportation over long distances, which generally is charged on a per-mile basis beyond the local area. There may be extra charges if a separate trip has to be made to obtain a death certificate. Many funeral establishments will hold a body for only a short period –as little as 6 to 24 hours – before adding charges for sheltering or refrigeration, often between \$75 and \$150 per day. Often such charges will be incurred if the body must be held over a weekend or holiday. There may be additional charges for services provided on Saturday or Sunday or late in the day. There may also be additional charges for cremation or burial if the body is over 300 pounds.

If you use the Internet, you should consider looking to see whether funeral providers you are interested in have a web site. Some have photos of their physical facilities online. A few have extensive information including complete price lists and pictures of merchandise such as caskets, vaults, and urns.

Muslim and Jewish individuals should check with a spiritual leader where you worship to see if there are funeral establishments or cemeteries that have special arrangements to serve your respective spiritual community. For example, the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington contracts with local funeral homes (Hines –Rinaldi in Silver Spring and Jefferson Funeral Chapel in Alexandria as of 7/2010), to provide immediate burial including a plain pine box for burial, and use of facilities for members of the committee to perform ritual Jewish preparation of and sitting with the body. It is available to members of the 46 synagogues that currently participate. More information can be found at www.jewish-funerals.org.

More information about funerals, burial and cremation, including many cost-saving suggestions, may be found on the FCAME website at www.mdfunerals.org.

FCAME is the volunteer-run regional chapter of a national non-profit consumer education and advocacy organization, the Funeral Consumers Alliance. FCAME serves residents in Maryland, DC and Delaware. Our address is 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814. Phone 301-564-0006, Email info@mdfunerals.org