



2015 FCAME Mortuary Price Survey

This survey of funeral establishments in Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia was conducted over the past 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 September 2014 and March 2015, for each funeral establishment listed, or from information obtained from telephone inquiries of the establishments which did not send us their complete price list. It should be noted that these prices are subject to revision at any time and may have changed since our latest information. 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 either did not provide us with information about their prices, or we did not know about them.

- See the notes at the bottom of the survey table 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 are the least expensive option for direct cremation and DO NOT INCLUDE a cremation container (in most cases) or an urn. See the explanatory notes for direct cremation below. They DO include the crematory fee to the best of our knowledge unless otherwise noted below.
- The prices given for immediate burial are the least expensive option and 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 footnotes containing additional information which appear after the survey table. Check the footnotes for a given listing before comparing prices.

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
	MARYLAND		
All of Maryland	Maryland Cremation Services, 410-960-7525 or 1-888-960-7525 http://www.marylandcremationservices.com	\$875 (5)	NA
Most of Maryland	Going Home Cremation Service, 410-442-3662 or 1-866-728-4663 www.goinghomecremation.com	\$995 (4,9)	NA
Aberdeen, MD	Tarring-Cargo Funeral Home, 410-272-4500 www.tarringcargo.com	\$2300	\$3025
	William C. Brown Community Funeral Home, 410-272-5100 www.williamcbrownfh.com	\$1995 (1)	\$1995
Abingdon, MD	McComas Funeral Home, 410-676-4600 www.mccomasfuneralhome.com	\$3675	\$3680 (3)
Accident, MD	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-895-5188 www.Newmanfuneralhomes.com	\$1675 (1)	\$2437
Accokeek, MD	Phillip Bell Sr. & Winona Morrisette-Johnson, 301-710-6272 www.bmjfuneralservice.com	\$1795	\$2345
Annapolis, MD	Advent Funeral and Cremation Services, 410-573-1486 or 301-577-7787, www.adventfuneral.com	\$1995	\$1995
	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-897-4852 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-263-2222 www.hardestyfuneralhome.com	\$1665(1)	\$3495
	John M. Taylor Funeral Home, 410-263-4422 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2110	\$2350
	W.M. Reese & Sons Mortuary, 410-268-6015 www.wmreeseandsons.com	\$1735 (2)	\$1995
Aquasco, MD	Adams Funeral Home, 301-579-6043 www.adamsfuneralhomemd.com	\$1225	\$1150
Arbutus, MD	Ambrose Funeral Home, 410-242-2211	\$1676 (1)	\$1775

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Baltimore, MD	Bailey Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-609-0009 www.baileyfunerals.org	\$1400 (1)	\$2095
	Beverly D. Cromartie Funeral Service, 410-400-3440	\$650 (1)	\$650
	Bruzdinski Funeral Home, 410-686-4888 www.bruzdinski.com	\$2145	\$2995
	Burgee-Henss-Seitz Funeral Home, 410-889-3735 www.dignitymemorial.com (SCI)	\$3380	\$3770
	Calvin B. Scruggs Funeral Home, 410-837-4926 www.calvinbscruggsfh.com	\$1275	\$1675
	Calvin Williams Funeral Service, 410-534-2400/410-747-9059	\$875 (1)	\$1075
	Carlton C. Douglass Funeral Service, 410-669-1738	\$975	\$1125
	Charisse N. Woods Funeral Services, 443-851-1874	\$950	\$1675
	Charles F. Evans & Son, 410-665-9444 www.evansfuneralchapel.com	\$1150	\$1980
	Charles L. Stevens Funeral Home, 410-752-7739 www.charleslstevensfuneralhome.com	\$1025	\$1775
	Charles S. Zeiler & Son, 410-276-3588 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2765	\$2870
	Chatman-Harris Funeral Home East, 410-488-5947 www.chatmanharrisfh.com	\$1045	\$1995
	Chatman-Harris Funeral Home West, 410-578-3822 www.chatmanharrisfh.com	\$1045	\$1995
	Connelly Funeral Home of Essex, 410-687-7100 www.connellyfuneralhome.com	\$2595 (1)	\$3195
	Cremation and Funeral Alternatives, 410-321-1005 www.cafa.com	\$690 (1)	\$1350
	Cremation Society of Maryland, 410-788-1800	\$960 (6)	NA
	Cvach/Rosedale Funeral Home, 410-682-2467	\$1916 (1)	\$2577
	David J. Weber Funeral Homes (Chester Street), 410-276-6600	\$1960 (2)	\$1990
	David J. Weber Funeral Homes (Edmondson Ave), 410-624-7432	\$1960 (2)	\$1990
	The Derrick C. Jones Funeral Home, 410-542-1900 www.derrickcjonesfuneralhome.com	\$1395 (2)	\$2350
	Estep Brother's Funeral Services, 410-728-6119/800-352-5019	\$1800 (2)	\$2250
	Evans Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services, 410-665-9444	\$3225 (2)	\$4450
	Gonce Funeral Service, 410-789-1800 www.goncefuneralservice.com	\$2175	\$2100
	Hari P. Close Funeral Service, 410-327-3100 www.haripclosefunerals.com	\$900 (2)	\$1300
	Howell Funeral Home of East Baltimore, 410-485-3500 www.howellfh.com	\$885 (1)	\$1185
	Hubbard Funeral Home, 410-242-3300 www.hubbardfuneralhome.com	\$3680(1)	\$3880
	Hussain's Islamic Funeral Services, 410-800-4880 www.muslimfuneralhome.org	\$765 (1)	\$1065
	James A. Morton & Sons Funeral Homes, 410-728-1100 www.mortonfuneralhomes.com	\$1125 (1)	\$1675
	John L. Williams Funeral Directors, 410-218-6137	\$995 (2,8)	\$1695
	Joseph H. Brown, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-383-2700 www.josephhbrown.com	\$1125	\$1595
	Joseph G. Locks, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-685-7555	\$1500	\$1500
	Joseph L. Russ Funeral Home (East Jefferson St), 410-676-1112	\$1275	\$1275
	Joseph L. Russ Funeral Home (West North Ave.), 410-523-3361	\$1215	\$1275
Joseph N. Zannino, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-327-4220	\$1945 (2)	\$2295	
Kaczorowski Funeral Home, 410-633-0000, www.KFHPA.com	\$1820	\$1515	
Lassahn Funeral Home, 410-665-2000	\$2995 (2)	\$3280	
Leonard J. Ruck, 410-426-1517 www.ruckfuneralhomes.com	\$2535 (1)	\$3350 (3)	
Lilly & Zeiler Funeral Home (Eastern Avenue), 410-327-1442 www.lillyandzeilerfuneralhome.com	\$1565	\$2400	

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
	Lilly & Zeiler Funeral Home (Conkling St), 410-342-1222 www.lillyandzeilerfuneralhome.com	\$1565	\$2400
	Loudon Park Funeral Home, 410-644-1900 (SCI) www.dignitymemoral.com	\$1845	\$4000
	March Funeral Homes (Wabash Ave.), 410-542-2400 www.marchfh.com	\$1800 (1)	\$1450
	March Funeral Homes (E. North Ave.), 410-727-3300 www.marchfh.com	\$1800 (1)	\$1450
	Marshall W. Jones, JR. Funeral Service, 410-327-4111	\$1750	\$1650
	Marzullo Funeral Chapel, 410-254-5201 www.marzullofuneralchapel.com	\$850 (2)	\$2062
	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home (S. Baltimore), 410-355-1185	\$1545 (2)	\$1915
	Michael Ziglier Funeral Service, 410-383-8200	\$1440	\$1780
	Miller-Dippel Funeral Home, 410-426-7171 (SCI) www.dignitymemoral.com	\$2765	\$2870
	Miller's Metropolitan Chapel, 410-327-2777 www.millersmetropolitanchapel.com	\$1750	\$2150
	Mitchell-Wiedefeld Funeral Home, 410-377-8300 www.mwfuneralhome.com	\$2150 (1)	\$1480
	Nancy M. Wallace Funeral Service, 410-566-8315	\$1025 (1)	\$1475
	Parker Funeral Home, 410-945-4665	\$1575 (2)	\$1675
	Phillips Funeral Home, 410-523-4918 www.phillipsfuneralhomepa.com	\$1350	\$1550
	Redd Funeral Service, 410-523-1600	\$925 (1)	\$1365
	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 410-962-8290 www.taylorfuneralhome.com	\$1725	\$4025
	Rosedale Funeral Home of Philip E. Cvach, 410-682-2467 www.cvachrosedalefuneralhome.com	\$965	\$1125
	Thomas J. Skarda Funeral Home, 410-342-7733	\$1085	\$1660
	The Phillip A. Weatherford Funeral Services, 410-327-7700	\$1175	\$2175 (3)
	Vaughn Greene East, 410-433-7500 www.vaughncgreene.com	\$1470 (1)	\$1265
	Vaughn Greene West, 410-233-2400 www.vaughncgreene.com	\$1470 (1)	\$1270
	Vaughn Greene Wildwood, 410-945-2700 www.vaughncgreene.com	\$1470 (1)	\$1270
	W. Dabrowski-Chojnacki Funeral Home, 410-633-6630 www.dabroski-chojnacki-fh.com	\$875 (1)	\$2550
	Wesley Chavis, Jr. Funeral Home, 410-342-7400	\$925 (1)	\$1225
	William C. Brown Community Funeral Home, 410-728-8422 www.williamcbrownfh.com	\$2010 (1)	\$1995
	Wylie Funeral Home of Baltimore County, 410-462-4070 www.wylie.com	\$1150	\$1650
Barton, MD	Boal Funeral Home, 301-359-3031, www.boalfh.com	\$2625	
Barnesville, MD	Hilton Funeral Home, 301-349-2135 www.hiltonfh.com	\$2430 (1)	\$3040
Bel Air, MD	McComas Funeral Home, 410-838-4040 www.mccomasfuneralhome.com	\$3675	\$3680 (3)
	Schimunek Funeral Home, 410-638-5360 (Dignity) www.schimunekfuneralhomes.com	\$3255 (1)	\$4000
Beltsville, MD	Donald V. Borgwardt Funeral Home, 301-937-1707	\$2360 (2)	\$2500 (3)
Berlin, MD	The Burbage Funeral Home, 410-641-2111 www.burbagefuneralhome.com	\$2250	\$2635
	Jolley Memorial Chapel, 410-641-6584 www.jolleymemorialchapelmd.com	\$2025 (1)	\$2710
Bethesda, MD	Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home, 301-652-2200 www.pumphreysfuneralhome.com	\$3510 (1)	\$4310
Bivalve, MD	Messick Funeral Home, 410-546-0202	\$3250	\$3485
Boonesboro, MD	Bast-Stauffer Funeral Home, 301-432-8388 www.baststaufferfuneralhome.com	\$3325	\$3665 (3)

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Bowie, MD	Beall Funeral Home, 301-805-5544 www.beallfuneral.com	\$1560	\$2025
	Robert E. Evans Funeral Home, 301-464-8836 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3720	\$3770
Brentwood, MD	Fort Lincoln Funeral Home, 301-864-5090 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2070	\$2370
Brooklyn, MD	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home, 410-355-1185	\$1685 (1)	\$1970
Brunswick, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-834-7000 www.staufferfuneralhome.com	\$3670	\$3945 (3)
Cambridge, MD	Boardley Funeral Home, 410-228-7317	no	Response
	Curran-Bromwell Funeral Home, 410-228-2616	\$2370	\$2630
	Henry Funeral Home, 410-228-8220 www.henryfuneralhomepa.com	\$1120	\$1570
	Mid Shore Cremation Center www.midshorecremationcenter.com	\$1495	N/A
	Newcomb and Collins Funeral Home, 410-228-2616 www.newcombcollins.com	\$1995	\$2995
	Thomas Funeral Home, 410-228-4727	\$3145 (2)	\$2485
Camp Springs, MD	Eternal Faith Funeral Services, Steven L. Napper, 301-476-0863	\$1295	\$1885
	Strickland Funeral Services, 301-449-0400 www.stricklandfuneralservices.com	\$1250(1)	\$1150
	Wiseman Funeral Home, 301-899-2005 www.wisemanfuneralhome.com	\$1950	\$2225
Catonsville, MD	Candel Light Funeral Home by Craig Witzke, 443-830-0310 www.witzkefh.com	\$2595 (1)	\$2590
	MacNabb Funeral Home, 410-747-4770 www.Macnabbfuneral.com	\$995 (2)	\$1995
	Sterling-Ashton-Schwab-Witzke, 410-744-8600 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3725	\$3770
Centreville, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-758-1151 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
Charlotte Hall, MD	Brinsfield-Echols Funeral Home, 301-472-4400 www.brinsfieldfuneral.com	\$2245 (1)	\$2515
Chesapeake City	R.T. Foard Funeral Home, 410-885-5916, www.rtfoard.com	\$3655	\$3805
Chester, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-643-2226 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
Chestertown, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-778-0055 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
	Marvin V. Williams, Jr. Funeral Director, 410-778-3582	\$2495	\$2845
Clarksville, MD	Donaldson Funeral Home, 301-725-1690 www.donaldsonfuneralhome.com	\$2295	\$3225
Clear Spring, MD	Donald Edwin Thompson Funeral Home, 310-842-2900	\$1995	\$2250
Clinton, MD	Lee Funeral Home, 301-868-0900, www.leefuneralhomes.com	\$3345	\$2370
Columbia, MD	Witzke Funeral Homes, 410-992-9090 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3725	\$3770
Cresaptown, MD	Scarpelli Funeral Home, 301-724-4600, www.scrapellifh.com	\$1750 (1)	\$1400
Crisfield, MD	Anthony E. Ward, JR. Funeral Home, 410-651-0153 www.anthonyearward.com	\$1600 (2)	\$2150
Cumberland, MD	Adams Family Funeral Home, 301-722-5700	\$1650	\$2985
	Bradshaw & Sons Funeral Home, 410-968-0707 www.bradshawandsonsfuneralhome.com	\$1945	\$2265
	Hafer Funeral Service, 301-729-5000 www.haferfuneralservice.com	\$1835	\$2045
	Scarpelli Funeral Home, 301-724-4600, www.scrapellifh.com	\$1750	\$1400
	Upchurch Funeral Home, 301-724-2250	\$1750	\$2150
Damascus, MD	Molesworth-Williams Funeral Home, 301-253-2138, molesworthwilliams.com	\$3150 (1)	\$3150
Deal Island, MD	Jolley Memorial Chapel, 410-748-2433 www.jolleymemorialchapelmd.com	\$2465	\$2685

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Denton, MD	Moore Funeral Home, 410-479-2611 www.moorefuneralhomepea.com	\$2925	\$2735
Dundalk, MD	Bradley-Ashton Funeral Home, 410-284-2600 www.bradlyashton.com	\$1375 (1)	\$1915
	Connelly Funeral Home of Dundalk, 410-285-2900 www.connellyfuneralhomeofdundalk.com	\$2340 (1)	\$2430
	Duda-Ruck Funeral Home of Dundalk, 410-288-4664 www.ruckfuneralhomes.com	\$2535 (1)	\$3350 (3)
Dunkirk, MD	Raymond-Wood Funeral Home, 410-257-7450 www.raymondwood.com	\$1995	\$2300
East New Market, MD	Zeller Funeral Home, 410-943-3686	\$2097	\$2687
Easton, MD	Bolden-Tilghman Mortuary Service, 443-385-0487 www.boldentilghman.com	\$895 (1)	n/r
	Chesapeake Mortuary Services By Todd Mielke, 410-822-2476 www.chesapeakemortuary.com	No	Response
	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-822-3131 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3610	\$3505 (3)
Edgewater, MD	George P. Kalas Funeral Home, 410-956-4488/ 301-261-4488	\$2195	\$2795
Eldersburg, MD	Haight Funeral Home and Chapel, 410-795-1400 www.haightfuneralhome.com	\$1885	\$1955
	Jeffrey N. Zumbrun Funeral Home., 410-795-2299	\$1470 (1)	\$1675
Elkridge, MD	Gary L. Kaufman Funeral Home, 410-796-8024 (SCI) www.digitnitymemorial.com	\$3725	\$3770
Elkton, MD	Hick Home for Funerals, 410-398-3122 www.hickshomeforfunerals.com	\$2345	\$2675
	R.T. Foard and Gee, 410-398-3388, www.rtfoard.com	\$3650	\$3795
Ellicott City, MD	Harry H. Witzke's Family Funeral Home, 410-465-2848 www.harrywitzkefuneralhome.com	\$2685 (2)	\$2860
	Slack Funeral Home, 410-465-4400 www.slackfuneralhome.com	\$2855 (1)	\$2780
Emmitsburg, MD	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 301-447-6244 www.myersdurborawfh.com	\$1795	\$2497
Federsburg, MD	Frampton Funeral Home, 410-754-8888, www.framptom.com	\$1775	\$1775
	Williamson Funeral Home, 410-754-5400	\$2100	\$2000
Forest Hill, MD	Evans Funeral Chapel – Bel Air, 410-893-7575 www.evansfuneralchapel.com	\$3990 (2)	\$3825
Forestville, MD	Pope Funeral Home, Forestville Chapel, 301-568-4100 www.popefh.com	\$1870 (2)	\$2270
Frederick, MD	Gary L. Rollins Funeral Home, 301-662-5520 www.garylrollinsfuneralhome.com	\$2395	n/a
	Keeney & Basford Funeral Home, 301-662-2175 www.keeneybasford.com	\$3650 (1)	\$3650
	Resthaven Funeral Services, Skkot Cody, 301-898-1577 www.restheaven.us	\$2525	\$2400
	Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, 301-662-5966	\$3343	\$3885 (3)
	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-663-1690 www.staufferfuneralhome.com	\$3670	\$3945 (3)
Friendsville, MD	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-895-5188	\$1675 (1)	\$2437
Frostburg, MD	Durst Funeral Home, 301-689-8833 www.durstfuneralhome.com	\$2160 (2)	\$2300
	Sowers Funeral Home, 301-689-8866 www.sowersfuneralhome.com	\$1845	\$2560 (3)
Gaithersburg, MD	DeVol Funeral Home, 301-948-6800, www.DeVolFuneralHome.com	\$3100	\$3550
	Thibadeau Mortuary Service, 301-495-4950 www.affordafuneral.com	\$1200 (1)	\$1595
Galena, MD	Galena Funeral Home of Stephen L. Schaech, 410-648-5338	\$2430	\$2625
Galesville, MD	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-263-2222 www.hardestyfuneralhome.com	\$1665(1)	\$3495

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Gambrills, MD	Hardesty Funeral Home, 410-923-2601 www.hardestyfuneralhome.com	\$1665(1)	\$3495
Glen Burnie, MD	Harman Funeral Service, 410-863-1115 www.harmanfuneralservice.com	\$2545	\$2852
	Fink Funeral Home, 410-766-5690, www.finkfh.com	\$1770	\$2730
	Kirkley-Ruddick Funeral Home, 410-766-2200 www.kirkleyruddickfuneralhome.com	\$1850	\$1495
	Simplicity Cremation and Funeral Services, Thomas Allen, 410-777-5295	\$765 (2)	\$1200
	Singleton Funeral and Cremation Services, 410-766-7070 www.singletonfuneralhome.com	\$3235 (1)	\$3845
Grantville, MD	Newman Funeral Home, 800-427-5622 / 301-746-8222 / 301-533-1960	\$1675 (1)	\$2437
Greensboro, MD	Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home, 410-482-8914	\$3097	\$2498
Gwynn Oaks, MD	Ronald Grayson Funeral Service, 410-539-8033		
Hagerstown, MD	Andrew K. Coffman Funeral Home, 301-739-1444	\$2600 (2)	\$3205 (3)
	Douglas A. Fiery Funeral Home, 301-791-7759 www.douglasfiery.com	\$3765 (2)	\$3410
	Gerald Minnich Funeral Home, 301-739-1414, www.geraldminnichfuneralhome.com	\$1885	\$1935
	Harman Funeral Home 301-739-1414	\$1665	\$3225
	Minnich Funeral Home, 301-739-6800 www.minnich.com	\$2425	\$3083
	Potomac Valley Cremation Center, 301-739-5498	\$995	
	Rest Haven Funeral Chapel, 301-733-3575	\$1995	\$2295
Hampstead, MD	Eline Funeral Home, 410-833-1414	\$1725 (1)	\$2035
Hancock, MD	Grove Funeral Home, 301-678-6178	\$2175 (1)	\$2185
Havre de Grace, MD	Lisa Scott Funeral Home, 410-939-4940	\$2670 (1)	\$2795
	Zellman Funeral Home, 410-939-2882	\$3075 (1)	\$4000 (3)
Hyattsville, MD	Gasch's Funeral Home, 301-927-6100, www.gaschs.com	\$1825 (1)	\$3395 (3)
Indian Head, MD	Thornton Funeral Home, 301-375-7855 www.thorntonfuneralhomepa.com	\$1975	\$2475
	Williams Funeral Home, 301-743-5478	\$1780	\$1660
Jarrettsville, MD	E.G. Kurtz & Son Funeral Home, 410-692-6000	\$2400 (1)	\$3000
Jessup, MD	Howell Funeral Home, 301-604-0101, www.howellfh.com	\$2175 (2)	\$2175
Kingsville, MD	E. F. Lassahn Funeral Home, 410-592-6100	\$2995 (2)	\$3280
Kitzmilller, MD	David A. Burdock Funeral Home, 301-453-3397	\$2350	\$3150 (3)
La Plata, MD	Arehart – Echols Funerals Home, 301-934-8342 www.arethartechols.com	\$2200 (1)	\$2515
	Raymond Funeral Service, 301-934-2920 or 1-800-924-2030 www.raymondfuneralservice.com	\$2370	\$2170
La Vale	Hafer Funeral Service, 301-729-5000	\$1235	\$1555
Landover, MD	J.B. Jenkins Funeral Home, 301-322-2300 www.jbjenkinsfuneralhome.com	\$1195	\$1975
Lansdowne, MD	Ambrose Funeral Home of Lansdowne, 410-242-2211	\$1676 (1)	\$1775
Laurel, MD	Donaldson Funeral Home, 301-725-1690 www.donaldsonfuneralhome.com	\$2535	\$2535
	Fleck Funeral Home, 301-490-0606 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2765	\$3170
Laytonsville, MD	Roy W. Barber Funeral Home, 301-948-3500 www.barberfhlaytonsville.com	\$2500	\$3000
Leonardtwn, MD	Brinsfield Funeral Home, 301-475-5588 www.brinsfieldfuneral.com	\$2200 (1)	\$2515
	Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, 301-475-8500, www.mgfh.com	\$2070 (1)	\$2765
Libertytown, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1870	\$2285 (3)
Lonaconing, MD	Eichhorn-McKenzie Funeral Home, 301-463-5535 www.eichhornmckenzie.com	\$1425 (1)	\$1470
Lusby, MD	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-326-9400	\$2535	\$2925 (3)

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Manchester, MD	Eckhardt Funeral Chapel, 410-374-2626 www.eckhardtfuneralchapel.com	\$2100 (1)	\$2845
Mechanicsville, MD	Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home, 301-884-8070 www.briscoe-tonicfuneralhome.com	\$3625	\$3850
Middletown, MD	Donald B. Thompson Funeral Home, 301-371-6070	\$3495 (1)	\$3595
Midland, MD	Eichhorn-McKenzie Funeral Home, 301-463-4042 www.eichhornmckenzie.com	\$1425 (1)	\$1470
Millington, MD	Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam, 410-928-5311 www.fhnfuneralhome.com	\$3465	\$3220 (3)
Monkton, MD	Evans Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services, 410-343-3000 www.evansfuneralchapel.com	\$2575 (2)	\$3095
Mt. Airy, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-829-9410 www.staufferfuneralhome.com	\$3665	\$3945 (3)
Myersville, MD	Ricketts Funeral Home, 301-293-2331	\$1755	\$1945
New Windsor, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000 www.hartzlerfuneralhome.com	\$1535 (1)	\$2105 (3)
North East, MD	Crouch Funeral Home, 410-287-6166 www.crouchfuneralhome.com	\$3285 (1)	\$3975 (3)
Nottingham, MD	Schimunek Funeral Home, 410-256-3600 (Dignity) www.schimunekfuneralhomes.com	\$3255 (1)	\$4000
Oakland, MD	David A. Burdock Funeral Home, 301-334-3388	\$2350	\$3150 (3)
	Newman Funeral Homes, 301-533-1960	\$1675 (1)	\$2437
Odenton, MD	Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory, 410-672-2200 www.donaldsonfuneralhome.com	\$2535	\$2535
Owings, MD	Lee Funeral Home, 301-855-0888, www.leefuneralhomes.com	\$3325	\$2370
	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-257-6181	\$2535	\$2925 (3)
Owings Mills, MD	Eckhardt Funeral Chapel, 410-356-7676 www.eckhardtfuneralchapel.com	\$2100(1)	\$2845
Oxon Hill, MD	George P. Kalas Funeral Home, 301-567-9424	\$2395	\$2695
Parkville, MD	Evans Funeral Chapel and Cremation Services, 410-665-9444 www.evansfuneralchapel.com	\$1765	\$1925
	Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-444-4683 www.parkviewfh.com	\$1335	\$2000
Pasadena, MD	Daugherty Family Funeral Home & Cremation Ctr, 410-439-4510	\$1320	\$1470
	Gregory J. Gonce Funeral Home, 410-255-2650 www.gjgoncefuneralhome.com	\$1405	\$1950 (3)
	McCully-Polyniak Funeral Home, 410-255-2381	\$1545 (2)	\$1915
	Stallings Funeral Home, 410-360-1770 www.stallingsfh.com	\$1750 (2)	\$1825
Perryville, MD	Lee A. Patterson & Son, 410-642-2555 www.pattersonfuneralhomend.com	\$1550	\$1845
Pikesville, MD	Sol Levinson & Bros, 410-653-8900 www.sollevinson.com	\$2545 (2)	\$2995
	Holloway Funeral Home, 410-957-0224	\$2095	\$3120
Port Republic, MD	Rausch Funeral Home, 410-586-0520	\$2710	\$3100 (3)
Prince Frederick, MD	Sewell Funeral Home, 410-535-1646 www.sewellfuneralhome.com	\$1710	\$2175
Princess Anne, MD	Hinman Funeral Home, 410-651-0990	\$2395 (2)	\$2670
	Athony E. Ward, JR. Funeral Home, 410-651-0153 www.anthoneward.com	\$1600 (2)	\$2150
Randallstown, MD	Wylie Funeral Homes, 410-655-9200, www.wyliefh.com	\$1925 (2)	\$1500
	Vaughn Greene Randallstown, 410-655-0015 www.vaughnsgreene.com	\$1470 (1)	\$1270
Reistertown, MD	Eline Funeral Home, 410-833-1414	\$1725 (1)	\$2035
Rising Sun, MD	R.T. Foard Funeral Home, 410-658-603, www.rtfoard.com	\$3655	\$3800
Riverdale, MD	Chambers Funeral Home & Crematorium, 301-699-5500 www.chambersfuneralhomes.com	\$1625 (1)	\$1855
Rockville, MD	Cole Funeral Services, PA, 301-871-1444, www.colefunerals.com	\$1500	\$2100
	Danzansky-Goldberg Memorial Chapels, 301-340-1400 (SCI), www.dignitymemorial.com	\$6500 (1)	\$6155

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
	Edward Sagel Funeral Direction, 301-217-9400 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3200	\$5540
	Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Home, 301-762-3939 www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com	\$3510 (1)	\$4310
	Simple Tribute Funeral & Cremation Ctr, 301-545-0960 (SCI)	\$1495	\$2050
	Snowden Funeral Home, 301-762-2500 www.snowdencares.com	\$1850	\$1840
Salisbury, MD	Bounds Funeral Home, 410-749-3281 www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2995	\$4630
	Holloway Funeral Home, 410-742-5141, www.hollowayfh.com	\$2670	\$3435
	Jolley Memorial Chapel, 410-749-6461 www.jolleymemorialchapelmd.com	\$2025 (1)	\$2710
	Lewis N. Watson Funeral Home, 410-546-6937 / 410-341-6338 www.lewiswatsonfuneralhome.com	\$2155	\$2465
	Stewart Funeral Home By Holloway & Downey, 410-742-1297 www.thestewartfuneralhome.com	\$1865	\$2250
	Zeller Funeral Home, 410-749-5206	\$2235	\$2865
Severna Park, MD	Barranco & Sons, 410-647-2400, www.barrancofuneralhome.com	\$2470	\$3170
	Cremation Direct, 410-440-0753, www.cremation-direct.net	\$870(2)	
Silver Spring, MD	Francis J. Collins Funeral Home, 301-593-9500 www.CollinsFuneralHome.com	\$2750	\$3250
	Hines – Rinaldi Funeral Home, 301-622-2290 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$2695	\$5085
	Philip D. Rinaldi Funeral Service, 301-585-4050 www.rinaldifuneralservice.com	\$1125	\$1395
	RAPP Funeral and Cremation Services, 301-565-4100 www.rappfuneral.com	\$910 (1)	\$1395
Smithsburg, MD	J.L. Davis Funeral Home, 301-791-1230 www.jldavisfuneralhome.com	\$1975	\$2220
Snow Hill, MD	The Burbage Funeral Home, 410-632-9991 www.burbagefuneralhome.com	\$2035	\$2350
Suitland, MD	Cedar Hill Funeral Home, 301-817-0120 www.cedarhillfuneralhome.com	\$2820	\$2500
	Hodges & Edwards Funeral Home, 301-899-0687	\$1885	\$1995
	Marshall March Funeral Home of Maryland, 301-736-1616 www.marshallmarchfh.com	\$1570 (1)	\$1975
Sykesville, MD	Haight Funeral Home and Chapel, 410-795-1400	\$2050 (2)	\$1745
	Jeffrey N. Zumbrun Funeral Home, 410-795-2299 www.jnzbrunfuneralhome.com	\$1975	\$2230
Taneytown, MD	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 410-756-6688 www.myersdurborawfh.com	\$1795	\$2497
Temple Hills, MD	J.K. Johnson Funeral Home, 301-449-9400 www.jkjohnsonfuneralhome.com	\$1645	\$1975
	K.J. Robinson Funeral Service, 301-338-7046 www.kjrobinsonfuneralservice.com	\$1580	\$2350
	Ralph Williams II Funeral Service, 301-262-2387 www.ralphwilliamsiifuneralservice.com	\$1570	\$1970
Thurmont, MD	Robert E. Dailey & Son Funeral Homes, 301-271-2404	\$3345	\$3885 (3)
	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-271-7777 www.staufferfuneralhome.com	\$3670	\$3945 (3)
Timonium, MD	John O. Mitchell, Funeral Services Dulaney Valley, 410-628-1930	\$1700 (1)	\$1485
	Lemmon Funeral Home of Dulaney Valley, 410-252-6000 (SCI) www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3725	\$3770
	Peaceful Alternatives Funeral & Cremation Center, 410-252-8720 www.peacefulalternatives.com	\$1415 (2)	\$1300
Towson, MD	The Johnson-Fosbrink Funeral Home, 410-668-2300	\$1880 (1)	\$2220
	Ruck Towson Funeral Home, 410-823-1700	\$2535 (1)	\$3350 (3)
Union Bridge, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000 www.hartzlerfuneralhome.com	\$1535 (1)	\$2105 (3)

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Upper Marlboro, MD	W. Wesley Chavis, III. Funeral Service, 301-333-3030	\$1745	\$1935
Waldorf, MD	Briscoe-Tonic Funeral Home, 301-632-6624 www.briscoe-tonicfuneralhome.com	\$2950	\$3440
	Huntt Funeral Home, 301-645-7021, www.dignitymemorial.com	\$3850	\$3800
	Terrence L. Johnson Funeral Service, 301-392-0000 www.tljohnsonfuneralservice.com	\$2150	\$2550
Walkersville, MD	Stauffer Funeral Homes, 301-845-8091 www.staufferfuneralhome.com	\$3670	\$3945 (3)
Westernport, MD	Boal Funeral Home, 301-359-3031, www.boalfh.com	\$2225	\$2645
Westminster, MD	Fletcher Funeral Home, 410-848-7575 www.fletcherfuneralhome.net	\$3895	\$1995
	Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, 410-848-3933 www.myersdurborawfh.com	\$1795	\$2497
	Pritts Funeral Home and Chapel, 410-848-7533	\$2195	\$2650
White Plains, MD	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 301-638-9311 www.taylorfuneralhome.com	\$1725	\$4025
Williamsport, MD	Osborne Funeral Home, 301-582-3311 www.osborneguneralhome.net	\$2930 (1)	\$3730
Winfield, MD	Burrier-Queen Funeral Home, 410-795-0300 www.burrier-queen.com	\$2215 (1)	\$2635
Woodsboro, MD	Hartzler Funeral Home, 410-635-2000	\$1870	\$2285 (3)
Worton, MD	Bennie Smith Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 410-778-2161	\$2850 (1)	\$2515
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			
DC (NW)	Austin Royster Funeral Home, 202-829-9767 www.austin-royster.com	\$1365	\$1600
DC (NW)	Bacon Funeral Home, 202-332-3352	\$894	\$2000
DC (NW)	Bianchi Funeral Service, 202-529-5579 www.bianchifuneralservice.com	\$2100 (2)	\$2145
DC (NW)	DeVol Funeral Home, 202-333-6680 www.devolfuneralhome.com	\$3100	\$3550
DC (NW)	Genesis Cremation and Funeral Services, 202-291-7101 www.genesiscremationandfuneral.com	\$1305	\$3000
All of DC (cremation service located in Maryland)	Going Home Cremation Service, 410-442-3662 or 1-866-728-4663 www.goinghomecremation.com	\$1295 (9)	NA
DC (NW)	Hackett's Funeral Chapel, 202-829-0243 www.hackettsfuneralchapel.com	\$ 3540(1)	\$3540
DC (NW)	Hall Brothers Funeral Home, 202-234-3370 www.hallbrothersfh.com	\$2560	\$2805
DC (NW)	House of Williams Funeral & Cremation Services, 202-723-6777 www.williams-addisonhouse.com	\$1795	\$1995
DC (NW)	Hysong Company, 202-628-8420	\$1745	\$2625
DC (NW)	Hunt Funeral Home, 202-636-3612, www.huntfuneralhome.net	\$1500	\$2500
DC (NW)	Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home, 202-882-8800 www.johnsonandjenkinsfh.com	\$1450	\$3000
DC (NW)	Joseph Gawler's Sons, 202-966-6400 (SCI) www.josephgawlers.com	\$6800	\$6800
DC (NW)	Latney's Funeral Home, 202-882-2455	\$2625	\$3016
DC (NW)	Marshall March Funeral Home, 202-723-1250 www.marshallmarchfh.com	\$1595 (1)	\$1975
DC (NW)	McGuire Funeral Service, 202-882-6600 www.mcguire-services.com	\$3250	\$3265
DC (NW)	Murray & Tellington Funeral Home, 202-545-1400	\$1025	\$1325
DC (NW)	R.N. Horton Company Morticians, 202-829-9000 www.hortonsfuneralhome.com	\$2096	\$2171
DC (NW)	Robinson Funeral Home, 202-387-5984	\$2810	\$2800 (3)

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
DC (NW)	Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 202-882-2732 www.taylorfuneralhome.com	\$1995	\$2500
DC (NW)	Santa Cruz Servicios Funerarios, 202-829-2106	\$1750	\$1910
DC (NW)	Snead's Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 202-726-4400 www.sneadfuneralhome.com	\$1625	\$2500
DC (NW)	Torchinsky Hebrew Funeral Home, 202-541-1001 www.torchinsky.com/	\$3495	\$4410 (7)
DC (NW)	Tri-State Funeral Service, 202- 882-1202 www.tri-statefuneralservices.com	\$1750	
DC (NW)	Tyrone J. Young Funeral Service, 202-723-7000	\$1395	\$2495
DC (NW)	Universal II Mortuary, 202-723-1075 www.dcfuneralhomes.com	\$1305 (2)	\$1930
DC (NE)	B.K. Henry Funeral Chapel, 202-544-9655	\$1695	\$2500
DC (NE)	Bonnette & Associates Funeral Home, 202-269-6220	\$1575	\$1575
DC (NE)	Capitol Mortuary, 202-399-6999, www.capitolmortuaryinc.com	\$1475	\$4250
DC (NE)	Dunn & Sons Funeral Service, 202-399-0535	\$1495	\$2295
DC (NE)	Henry S. Washington & Sons, 202-398-6700 www.washingtonandsonsfuneralhome.com	\$1250	\$1780
DC (NE)	John T. Rhines Funeral Home, 202-529-4300	\$1300	\$1335 (3)
DC (NE)	Pinckney-Spangler Funeral Home, 202-544-7720 www.pinckney-spanglerfuneralhomedc.com	\$1450	\$1200
DC (NE)	Stewart Funeral Home, 202-399-3600 www.stewartfuneralhome.com	\$1126	\$1335
DC (SE)	Pope Funeral Home, Washington Chapel, 202-583-5400 www.popefh.com/	\$1695 (2)	\$2095
DC (SE)	Mason Funeral Home, 202-678-7700, www.robertgmason.com	\$1295	\$2050
DC (SE)	McLaughlin's Funeral Home, 877-670-9680 www.mclaughlinfuneralhomedc.com/	\$1375	\$1500
	DELAWARE		
Claymont, DE	Gebhart Funeral Home, 302-798-7726 www.gebhartfuneralhomes.com	\$5500 (3)	\$2140
Delaware City, DE	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-834-4524 www.spicermullikin.com	\$3550	\$4050
Dover, DE	Funeral Home of Michael J. Ambrusco, 302-734-2281 www.ambruso.com	\$2500 (3)	\$2500
	Trader Funeral Home, 302-734-4620 www.traderfh.com	\$2095 (1)	\$4400
Elsmere, DE	Krienen-Griffith Funeral Home, 302-994-9614 www.delawarefuneral.com	\$2487	\$6240
Felton, DE	Berry-Short Funeral Home, 302-422-8091	\$2300 (1)	\$1700
Frankford, DE	Melson Funeral Services Frankford Chapel, 302-732-9000	\$2395	\$8500
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 www.chandlerfuneralhome.com	\$3170	\$3725
Lewes, DE	Parsell Funeral Homes, Atkin-Lodge Chapel, 302-645-9520	\$2795	\$2950
Milford, DE	Berry-Short Funeral Home, 302-422-8091	\$2710	\$3000
Millsboro, DE	Melson Funeral Services Long Neck Chapel, 302-945-9000	\$2395	\$8500
	Watson Funeral Home, 302-934-7842 www.watsonfh.com	\$3507 (1)	\$3715
Milton, DE	Short Funeral Services, 302-684-8521	\$2300 (1)	\$1700
New Castle, DE	Gebhart Funeral Home, 302-328-2312 www.gebhartfuneralhomes.com	\$5500 (3)	\$2140
	Krienen-Griffith Funeral Home, 302-328-9300 www.delawarefuneral.com	\$2487	\$6240
	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-328-2213 www.spicermullikin.com	\$3550	\$4050

Location	Funeral Home	Direct Cremation	Immediate Burial
Newark, DE	Beeson Funeral Home, 302-453-1900 www.beesonguneralhome.com	\$3310	\$3650
	R.T. Foard and Jones, 302-731-4627, www.rtfoard.com	\$3555	\$3875
	Spicer-Mullikan Funeral Home, 302-368-9500 www.spicermullikin.com	\$3550	\$4050
Newport, DE	Strano & Feeley Family Funeral Home, 302-731-5459	\$2440	\$2400
	Nichols-Gilmore Funeral Home, 302-998-8013 www.nicholsgilmore.com	\$2,785	\$2195
Ocean View, DE	Melson Funeral Services Ocean View Chapel, 302-537-2441	\$2395	\$8500
	Parsell Funeral Homes, Clarksville Chapel, 302-537-1600	\$2795	\$2950
Seaford, DE	Cranston Funeral Home, 302-629-9237	\$1795	\$1745
Smyrna, DE	Matthews-Bryson Funeral Home, 302 653-2900 www.mathewsbryson.com	\$2995	\$2895 (3)
Wilmington, DE	Beeson Funeral Home, 302-764-2900 www.beesonguneralhome.com	\$3310	\$3650
	Chandler Funeral Homes & Crematory, 302-478-7100 www.chandlerfuneralhome.com	\$3170	\$3725
	Dougherty Funeral Home, Delaware Ave., 302-652-6811 www.dohertyfuneral.com	\$3630	\$3995 (3)
	Dougherty Funeral Home, Limestone Rd., 302-999-8277 www.dohertyfh.com	\$3630	\$3995 (3)
	Mealey Funeral Home, Limestone & Milltown, 302-654-3005 www.mealeyfuneralhomes.com	\$1995	\$2195
	Mealey Funeral Home, N. Broom St, 302-652-5913 www.mealeyfuneralhomes.com	\$1995	\$2195
Wilmington, DE	McCrery & Harra Funeral Homes & Crematory, Concord Pike 302-478-2204, www.Mccreryandharra.com	\$3430	\$2745
	McCrery & Harra Funeral Homes & Crematory, Kirkwood Hwy 302-478-2204, www.Mccreryandharra.com	\$3430	\$2745
	Schoenberg Memorial Chapel, 302-762-0334	\$1750	\$2300
Wyoming, DE	Pippin Funeral Home, 302-697-7002 www.pippinfuneralhome.com	\$1350	\$2225

Explanatory Footnotes

(SCI) Owned by Service Corporation International, a large 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 should 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 price includes \$15 for a minimum cremation container (cardboard).
- (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.
- (8) This funeral establishment has offered to perform a direct cremation for \$750 for those who find him with our price list. The FCAME did not solicit this offer, nor did it solicit offers from any other establishment.
- (9) This price includes \$15 for a minimum alternative cremation container (cardboard).

Survey Methodology

In early 2014, 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 or get specific information over the phone.

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 a few 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.

General 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 in this survey is the price listed on the GPL as “direct cremation with container provided by purchaser” (unless noted otherwise) 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.

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) or VA (\$50), and the courier’s fee for obtaining it, particularly if the mortuary is located outside of DC. There is medical examiner’s fee for direct cremation 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 approximately \$175 to more than \$600 in our area.

Cremation containers can cost as much as \$3900. However, funeral establishments are required to offer a relatively inexpensive "alternative container" for cremation. The least expensive one offered by any given establishment varies from a simple cardboard box or canvas or vinyl pouch offered for as little as \$15, to a more elaborate one costing 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 \$45 to more than \$4,250 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 few 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 this 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 are typically 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 more than \$100,000, 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 casket price list 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, more cost-effective arrangements.

You should also be aware that these prices do not include discretionary items such as multiple certified copies of death certificates (\$25 each in DE, \$24 each in MD, and typically \$18 each in DC), 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, which may run 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 weighs over 300 pounds.

Many funeral establishments have a website at this time. We have included the web address in our survey when applicable. Many have photos of their establishments and staff and a few have extensive information including complete price lists and pictures of merchandise such as caskets, vaults, and urns. We recommend you visit the websites of any establishments you are considering prior to visiting the actual physical facility.

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 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 more than 40 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