

Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Finger Lakes

The FCAFL is a non-profit consumer information organization, formerly known as the Ithaca Memorial Society, that serves Tompkins and adjacent counties, informing members and the general public about funeral practices and costs.

The purposes of the Alliance include promoting consumer education and protection with regard to funeral-related issues, promoting simplicity and humane value of funerals and memorial services, and assisting members and others in making advance plans for funeral arrangements at reasonable cost.

The Alliance contracts with funeral homes for pre-planned (not pre-paid) services. Survivors are thus spared difficult decisions and excessive costs at the time of a death.

The Alliance is financed entirely by donations and is a member of the Funeral Consumers Alliance, Inc., a national federation of non-profit consumer information societies (website: www.funerals.org),

Membership

Membership is free and open to all. Dependent minors may be enrolled by their parents or guardians. At age 18 those wishing to maintain membership enroll as adults. Donations are requested to offset the cost of enrolling members and maintaining their benefits. A donation of \$30 per person offsets the enrollment cost.

Membership forms can be obtained from the FCAFL office or downloaded from the website (www.imsfca.org). A copy is kept by the member and a copy is returned to the Alliance, which then forwards a copy to the funeral home chosen by the member.

Members receive identification cards and resource materials, including FCAFL newsletters. Copies of completed membership forms and descriptions of services should be distributed to people who will have responsibility for a member's arrangements.

Services provided by the Funeral Director

The funeral director removes the body from place of death, consults with survivors to confirm arrangements and get information for the death certificate, files the death certificate with the Health Department after obtaining a doctor's signature, obtains required permits, and sends a death notice to the appropriate newspaper. He may obtain one or more certified copies of the death certificate for the survivors, if copies are immediately available when the certificate is filed. In other circumstances, survivors obtain death certificates.

Type I: Direct cremation

The body is wrapped and placed in a cremation case and is transported to the crematory. Ashes are returned to the funeral home *for prompt pickup by survivors*.

Type II: Direct burial

Before any memorial ceremony, the body is placed in a simple casket and transported to the cemetery for private burial.

Type III: Funeral or Mass followed by cremation

The body is placed in a modest casket suitable for the ceremony and is transported to and from the ceremony and to the crematory. Ashes are returned to the funeral home *for prompt pick up by survivors*.

Type IV: Funeral or Mass followed by burial

The body is placed in a modest casket suitable for the ceremony and is transported to and from the ceremony and to the cemetery. There is no funeral procession.

Type V: Donation of Body

A member who plans to donate his/her body to a medical institution must make arrangements with that institution. Upon death, after the institution agrees to accept the body, it is transported promptly. If the institution cannot accept the body, then Type I service is provided.

Price Schedule

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Type I*	\$1086	\$1118	\$1152
Type II**	\$2014	\$2074	\$2136
Type III*	\$2357	\$2427	\$2500
Type IV**	\$2357	\$2427	\$2500
Type V***	\$999	\$1029	\$1060

* Plus cremation (about \$200)

** Plus cemetery and burial expenses

*** See Anatomical Gifts, other side

Survivors pay for death certificates.

Transportation: mileage beyond 20 miles to secure information, pick up the body, or for funeral and/or burial or body donation, will be at \$2.50 per mile one way.

Costs not included: death certificates, crematory charges, cemetery lot, grave opening and equipment, grave markers, and outer enclosure, if required.

Obituaries. Survivors provide obituaries to newspaper(s) of choice and pay for them directly.

Alternative services. Prices for Service Types I-V include only the items described for each Type. Survivors have the right to arrange for additional or alternative services, but such arrangement may void the member's contract.

Payment is due when services are rendered, on receipt of the statement for cremation and/or services of the funeral director. Cemetery expenses are paid directly to the cemetery association. The cost of the grave opening and equipment, and an outer enclosure or grave liner if required, may be itemized by the funeral director and then paid on receipt of statement. Payments past due may be charged interest.

Note: Prices may change—with FCAFL Board approval—so the cost of a chosen plan may be different at time of death. Members are kept informed. The price to be paid will be that in the *Continuing Agreement* between the funeral director and FCAFL that is current at the time of death.

Participating Funeral Homes

Allen-Manzer Funeral Home (607-589-4900)
56 North Main Street, Spencer, NY 14883

Bangs Funeral Home (607-272-1922)
209 West Green Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
www.bangsfuneralhome.com

Herson Funeral Home (607-272-2821)
110 So. Geneva Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
www.hersonfuneralhome.com

Holly-Keck & Baker Funeral Home
(607-732-5273)
640 Gray Street, Elmira, NY 14905
www.hollykeckbaker.com

Lansing Funeral Home, Inc. (607-533-8600)
32 Auburn Road, Lansing, NY 14882
www.lansingfuneralhome.com

MacPherson Funeral Home (607-642-5535)
P.O. Box 575, Newark Valley, NY 13811-0575
(At 5 Whig St.)

Ness-Sibley Funeral Home (607-387-8151)
P.O. Box 475, Trumansburg, NY 14886-0475
(At 23 South St.) www.ness-sibley.com

Perkins Funeral Home (607-844-8161)
P.O. Box 22, Dryden, NY 13053-0022
(Located at 55 West Main St.)
www.perkinsfuneralhome.com

Vedder & Scott Funeral Homes
122 North Genesee Street, Montour Falls, NY
14865 (607-535-2396)
534 Church St, Odessa, NY 14869
(607-594-3765)

E. C. Wagner Funeral Home of Ithaca
(607-272-3590)
421 North Aurora St, Ithaca, NY 14850
www.ecwagnerfuneralhome.com

Steps to take when a death occurs

It is important for your survivors to know your wishes and your chosen funeral home.

- (1) Call the funeral home, **not** the FCAFL. The funeral home provides the services described in this brochure. Exception: see anatomical donation information below.
- (2) Call the minister, priest, rabbi, or lawyer — whoever is appropriate.
- (3) Survivors arrange for the memorial or funeral ceremony, if one is desired.
- (4) Survivors prepare and pay for an obituary directly to *The Ithaca Journal* or newspaper(s) of choice.

Anatomical Gifts

Anatomical gift programs at two medical schools that serve central New York are: SUNY Upstate Medical University, Anatomical Gift Program, Dept. of Cell and Developmental Biology, 750 East Adams Street, Syracuse, NY 13210 (315-464-4348); and the University of Rochester Medical Center, Anatomical Gift Program, Box 709, 601 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY 14642 (585-275-2592).

If you arrange to donate your body to a medical institution, you should indicate its name on your Alliance enrollment form and send one copy of the Anatomical Gift Pledge form or equivalent to the funeral home.

The Anatomical Gift Program at Upstate Medical University will send a funeral director to transport a donor's body at no cost to the survivors. For this service, call Upstate (315-464-4348), not the local funeral home.

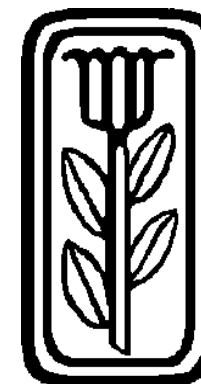
Contributions

You are invited to share in our work. Donations, which may honor the memory of a special person if you wish, are essential for the operation of this Alliance.

Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Finger Lakes

P.O. Box 134 • Ithaca, NY 14851-0134
(607) 273-8316 email: info@imsfca.org
Website: www.imsfca.org

Advance Planning for Funeral Needs



Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Finger Lakes

IF you believe it is wise to make plans in advance and put them in writing;

IF you wish to spare your family difficult decisions when you die;

IF you prefer funeral arrangements that are simple, dignified and reasonably priced;

IF you agree that money spent on elaborate funerals could be spent more wisely;

IF you want peace of mind by making your own plans now and sharing them with those who will live after you;

IF you believe it is important to promote consumer education about funeral-related issues;

THEN you may wish to join the **Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Finger Lakes.**