

# Funeral Planning Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

- ☐ Preparations
  - ☐ Collect personal information for obituary.
  - ☐ Plan the type of funeral service you will be having.
  - ☐ Decide when the funeral will be held.
  - ☐ Decide who will attend.
  - ☐ Choose a funeral home.
- ☐ Funeral Home Services
  - ☐ Choose burial or cremation.
  - ☐ Select a casket or cremation container.
  - ☐ Select a burial vault or cremation urn.
  - ☐ Choose the funeral location.
  - ☐ Choose family viewing or visitation.
  - ☐ Decide on the type of flower arrangements.
  - ☐ Select a photograph to be displayed.
  - ☐ Decide which religious or fraternal items are to be displayed.
  - ☐ Decide what the deceased will wear.
  - ☐ Select music, hymns, and solos.
  - ☐ Select scripture or literature to be read.
  - ☐ Select a memorial register.
  - ☐ Select memorial folders and acknowledgement cards.
  - ☐ Decide on the transportation.
- ☐ Participants
  - ☐ Choose clergy or officiator.
  - ☐ Choose organist.
  - ☐ Select pallbearers.
  - ☐ Select family member or friend to perform the eulogy.
  - ☐ Select family member or friend to read scripture or literature.
- ☐ Cemetery Selections
  - ☐ Choose a cemetery.
  - ☐ Select a burial or cremation plot.
  - ☐ Decide whether above or below ground.

- ☐ Select a memorial or grave marker and inscription.
- ☐ Final Arrangements
  - ☐ Apply for death certificates.
  - ☐ Apply for a burial permit.
  - ☐ Request preparation and embalming.
  - ☐ Compose and submit obituary.
  - ☐ Arrange location and food for the reception.