

Casket Options in Utah

Wood Caskets premade:

Farr West: Finished Caskets by Robert Alexander. Beautiful finished caskets \$650 to \$850ish. 801-388-9158 Email: rwalexander@juno.com He also understands the issues and costs of extra wide caskets and vaults. Robert will help you navigate biggie-size burial.

Park City: \$500 801-809-1951 Mark England Can be delivered for a reasonable fee. This casket is smooth plain pine and comes with beautiful copper hardware. Purchase ahead and use as a book shelf!

Orem: Simple fir caskets: plywood with black rope handles. \$200 Call Joyce 801-226-4701

Provo: (801) 356 -1367 Email: michael@handcraftedcasketsandcoffins.com If you've ever wanted a gorgeous reasonable priced toe-pincher style coffin, this is your chance! See the prices and great variety at the website HandcraftedCasketsAndCoffins.com \$650- \$1,100

Instructions to make a Casket:

You can find all kinds of casket-making plans and casket hardware on the Internet.

Cardboard Caskets: Decorate yourself, paint or cover with a tapestry: www.ncnaturalburial.com (shipped from North Carolina) Custom Packaging Options 1-888-207-4109 order shipped in 24-48 hrs. About \$15 plus shipping (figured at time of order but \$95 minimum. So it pays to order several at one time).

Airline Shipping: Airlines make you buy a (typically \$150) plywood and cardboard "shipping tray" to hold the casket. Eagle's Wing's Air Travel Agency www.eagleswingsair.com (866) 550-1392 will help you make all the arrangements for scheduling and family pick-up at the airport. Consider donating your used shipping tray to FCA of Utah to help another family. **We have one right now from a grateful family, selling for a \$50 donation to FCA of UT.**

Casket Presentation Option: A **pall** is a heavy cloth which covers a casket at funerals. It signifies that all are equal in the grave. The word comes from the Latin *pallium* (cloak). It's a metonymy (a figure of speech where a thing is called by something intimately associated with it). That's why the term "pallbearer" is used to signify someone who bears the casket.

Get a Better Priced Vault or Avoid One:

One historic cemetery in Salt Lake Valley that requires a vault but sells them for \$365: www.PleasantGreen.net
Or choose a rural cemetery in Utah: history.utah.gov/research_and_collections/cemeteries/index.html

Buying a casket at a Utah mortuary- Buyer Beware:

-Lowest priced caskets may be hidden, displayed in ugly colors and dull finishes to dissuade you from them. Families typically spend around \$2500 for a casket in an effort to buy a "middle priced" one.

One mortuary in Utah county first lists 63 caskets in its price list (mostly in the \$3000 range) before you get to caskets under \$1000. Of which there are just 4. This is called upping the middle.

-Sealer caskets are a huge rip-off. They cause more moldy slimy gaseous decomposition than any other.