

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Utah

We are a non-profit all-volunteer-run organization. 501 (c) (3)

We are an affiliated member of Funeral Consumers Alliance, Inc. See www.funerals.org

We are an educational association dedicated to consumers' rights.

We show you how to control funeral costs.

We are not a prepayment or insurance plan and will not refer you to any.

We now keep an eye on legislative issues being proposed and make sure they are consumer and green friendly.

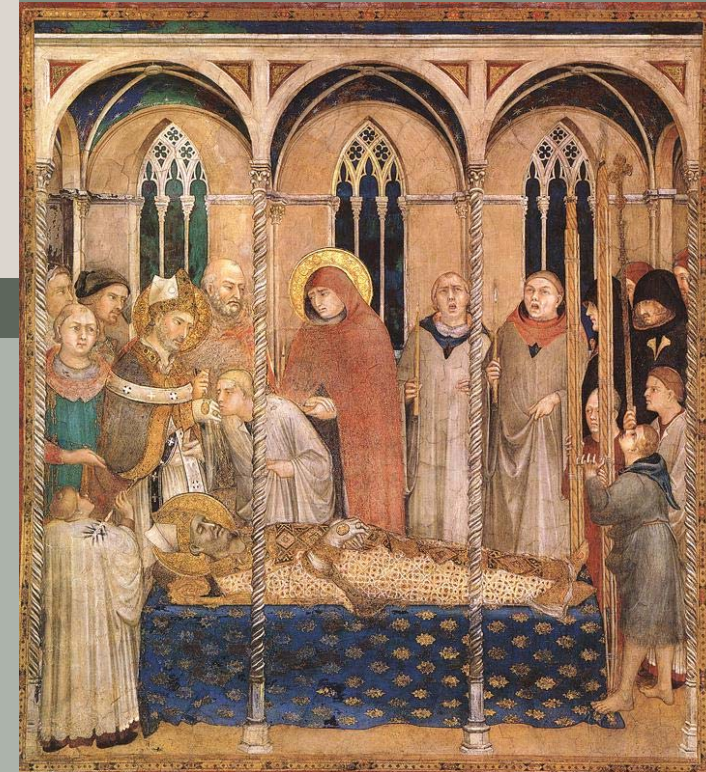
June 27, 2006
Sen. Orrin Hatch
introduced bill S3586 in
Washington D.C.

"Current law limits a Federal Trust to \$8,500, but this is generally no longer sufficient to cover a family's funeral expenses. In Utah, the average cost of a full funeral and burial is \$12,685."

According to
FCA of Utah
2009 Price Survey:

If a funeral director is hired, a fair-priced funeral package can be found for \$2,400. With casket, plot, vault and burial fees, you can keep the grand total to \$4,700.

FCA OF UTAH PROMOTING MEANINGFUL, DIGNIFIED & AFFORDABLE FUNERALS



YOUR DONATION PROVIDES

- Biennial Price Surveys of funeral dealerships statewide
- Alternatives to pre-paid contracts
- Detailed pre-planning forms
- Advice on Advance Directives
- Free basic help for everyone
- Availability of FCA in the future
- Transferable membership nationwide to 100 affiliates

FUNERALS CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF UTAH

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FUNERALS CONSUMERS ALLIANCE

Interactive Website on many topics
www.funerals.org



Are We Truly
All Equal in the Grave?



WHAT REDUCES THE FUNERAL BILL YOU WILL PAY?

1. SHOPPING

Prices can vary dramatically, even among cemeteries, monument dealers and florists. See our **2009 Statewide Mortuary Price Survey** to shop at a glance. Also ask about our recent Statewide Survey of City Cemeteries.

2. B.Y.O.C

By law a mortuary cannot penalize you in any way for **Bringing Your Own Casket**. A plain pine casket can be purchased locally for \$200-600. Make your own for \$100 in materials plus 3 hrs labor. A sturdy cardboard one costs \$32. If you want to buy from a mortuary, and the cheapest is ugly then it has been “vulgarized” (displayed ugly on purpose). A **fair-priced** casket, in your choice of **colors**, will not cost more than **\$850**. Sealer caskets cause gruesome decomposition – the opposite of “protective.”

3. SMALLER CEMETERY PLOTS

Cremation is an acceptable option in most religions (ask for our research). Direct cremation followed by a memorial service can cost as little as \$725. One can even hold a viewing and a funeral prior to cremation without embalming. We'll tell you how.

4. BODY DONATION

Some people are thrilled at the idea of gifting their body to science or education. Call the U of U Body Donor Program at **801-581-6728** to volunteer. All transportation costs are covered within 50 miles. You can even request that remains be returned to your family.

5. DO IT YOURSELF

You can wash, dress, transport the body, and direct a viewing, funeral or memorial. You can hold the service at a home, church or other venue. This allows survivors more opportunity to be involved personally in this final act of love. Get free how-to info at [Undertaken with Love](#), [Final Passages](#) and [Crossings](#) websites.

6. GO GREEN

The old way is coming back. The body in a biodegradable casket nourishes the land. A GPS locatable cemetery plot in the forest or desert preserves space to be inhabited by native plants and animals and enjoyed by visitors. Call FCA to see who is offering cemeteries like this.

7. TAKE CARE OF YOUR BROTHER

Lower the bar for everyone by buying cheap, or covering the casket with a pall (cloth covering). Simplicity symbolizes that death is the great equalizer. Start a funeral committee in your congregation to help each other free of charge. [HomeFuneralManual.org](#) (free download).

8. PLAN HOW TO PAY

without getting “locked in at today’s prices.” For example you can set up a Pay-Upon-Death savings account at your bank or buy an **independent** insurance policy. These allow flexibility in case you move, change your mind, or the mortuary goes out of business. FCA can also show you how you can appoint one person to control the disposition of your remains.

9. VERIFY DEATH BENEFITS

The V.A., Social Security (\$255), fraternal organizations, unions, and your employer may pay death benefits to survivors. Most are not automatic and must be applied for. For victims of a crime, funeral related expenses can be applied for at [crimevictim.utah.gov](#).

10. WRITE IT AND SHARE IT

Merely stating, “I’ve taken care of everything” leaves your family in the dark. It’s fun to fill out the FCA funeral planning forms together. You put each others wishes **in writing AND share a copy** with those who should know. FCA has what you need to start today. Fill out this form or call.

Choose any of the following:

- Donate (any amount) or Become a Member for \$25/person
- Funeral Planning Form (free)
- Edward Gorey Planning Packet \$12 (Free with membership plus \$4 s&h)
- 1 yr subscription to the National FCA Newsletter—full of fun, inspiring tips & news (4 issues/yr \$10)

Discounted books & free shipping:

- Dealing Creatively with Death*: \$9 A manual of death edu. & simple burial
- A Plain Pine Box* by Arnold Goodman \$15 A book about simple Jewish funerals
- More copies of this brochure to share with others How many? _____
- Email updates on funeral issues affecting Utahans
Email: _____
- I’m interested in learning more about volunteering.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Make checks payable to: FCA of Utah
Mail to: 1823 S 250 E, Orem, UT 84058

