

Funeral Dealerships with date of the General Price List (GPL) used for this survey	“Typical” Package*	Direct Cremation Alt. casket & basic fee incl., (M.E. fee extra)	Immediate Burial Basic Fee incl. (Casket extra)	Forwarding embalm, cask Basic Fee incl.	“Basic” Fee	Filing D.C. only \$ listed	Fridge/day & on Premises?	FTC Rule Interpret- ation
Northern Utah	6 ways to get the death certificate done professionally OR you may do it yourselfⁱ						It's Utah Law	See Next page
Aarons Affordable 10/06 393-5678 Ogden	4200	1295	995	995	1100	-	40	☺
Broomhead 1/08 254-3389 Riverton	3190	895	1050	1100	1650	-	75	2,4,5 14, 15
Cannon 1/09 942-6301 SLC	2995	1030	1075	855	1075	-	55	☺
Evans 'n Early/Wasatch 8/08 355-5323 Lawn/ Valley V. SLC*	6880	2020	2095	2595	2360	-	395	3,15
Garner 11/08 363-7065 SLC	2430	725	995	950	995	-	\$/Yes	14,15, 16
Gillies 12/08 435-723-5236 Brigham	3790	1795?	2150	1395	2360	-	No, use dry ice	14, 16
Goff 8/08 255-7151 Midvale	3800	1500+?	2000	1500	1900	-	50	10, 14, 15
Holbrook 12/08 484-2045 SLC	3190	995	None	995	1995	13	?	8,13,14, 16
Independent Funeral 8/08 486-2688 SL, Bountiful	3465	1160	1700	1395	1950	-	40	13
Jenkins Soffe 10/08 266-0222 Murray	4100	1470	1290	1290	1390	-	Yes Free short term	8, 10, 14,16
Larkin 10/08 363-5781 SLC, Sandy	3695	1845	2595	1740	2495	-	95	☺
Larkin and Sons 10/06 394-5505 Ogden	3715	1995+ Alt. container	2295	1450	2295	-	No	5,7,11, 13, 14
Leavitt's & 1/09 Cremation Society of UT Ogden	3995	2075	2050	1495	2120	-	95	5, 14
Lindquist 12/08 801-782-6666 Ogden*	4295	1125	2095	1690	2125	-	25	13
McDougal 968-3800 1/09 Taylorsville, West Jordan	4446	1774?	1425	3413	2118	-	75	6,11, 13
Memorial Mortuaries 9/08 364-6528 SLC*	3995	1595	2820	1695	1900	-	75	☺
Myers 801-399-5613 5/08 Ogden, Roy, Layton, Brigham	4285	2125	2255	1430	2011	-	45	5, 16
Neil O'Donnell & Sons 3/08 363-6641 SLC	3870	1325	1750	1300	1275	-	60	5
Nelson/Rogers & Taylor 10/07 Logan, Smithfield, Tremonton	3450	1190	1380	1195	1695	50	45	☺
Olpin-Hoopes 10/06 435-654-1161 Heber	They	Said	They	Would	send	But	Did	Not.
Peel 10/06 250-2624 Magna	2700	850	850	875	675	-	No	2,5,13,1 4,15
Russon Brothers 1/09 328-8846 SLC, Bountiful	4095	1485	1925	1340	2080	-	65	5, 16
Serenicare/Affordable 10/08 255-2801 Sandy, Orem	2395	695	950	950	875	-	30	8, 16
Tate 435-882-0676 Tooele 1/09	3295	1295	1155	1825	1675	-	60	☺

***Evans and Early Mortuaries that don't begin with the words "Evans and Early"** includes: Valley View in W.Valley City, Wasatch Lawn in SLC and Holladay. They are all owned by SCI corp.

***Lindquist Mortuaries** also in: N. Ogden, Clearfield, Layton, Kaysville, Bountiful.

***Memorial Estates that don't begin with the word "Memorial"** include: Lake Hills in Sandy, Colonial & Cottonwood in SLC, Holladay in Holladay. ***Memorial Estates** also in: West Jordan, Murray, Sandy, 3 in SLC, Holladay, Murray, and Bountiful

- means: None that we could tell. ? means: The service or product may be offered, but couldn't find it or divine a price from the info given.

DEFINITIONS

***Typical a.k.a. "Traditional" Funeral Package:** This package is called traditional, but it is really a product of American culture that we have become conditioned to purchase only over the last century.

The package **usually** includes (**some may include more**): procuring paperwork, embalming and other body prep, transport to mortuary, chapel then grave in a hearse, directing the movements of people and casket for the viewing and funeral, making a recording of the ceremony, providing a service vehicle/flower truck and the final lowering of the casket into the grave. The package **usually does not include**: Casket, obituaries, flowers, burial clothing, more hours of viewing/visitation, upgraded casket interiors, extra certified copies of the death certificate, vault/grave liner (the chairs, awning and fake grass at the graveside often provided with vault purchase), cemetery plot, opening and closing of grave, grave marker, and any other services or products not described under the package heading on the actual general price list.

Direct Cremation: The price on this survey includes cremation with the alternative casket which is a cardboard casket. Cardboard caskets are awesome. They can be decorated and personalized many different ways. They can be used for burial too. Be proud to be the first person you know to put on a viewing and funeral with a cardboard casket! There are no handles so it is expected to be moved on a wheeled bier or a wooden tray that has handles.

Immediate Burial: Add the cost of a casket, cemetery plot, vault or grave liner etc to the above price.

Forwarding of remains: Another way to get the death certificate with embalming if desired and then you are on your way for sometimes less than the basic fee.

"Basic" Non-declinable Fee : This non-declinable fee is charged if you choose to itemize, which means only selecting certain items or services. This fee is already included if you choose a √funeral package, √direct cremation, √immediate burial or √forwarding of remains. In 2006 a law was passed thanks to the Funeral Directors Association of Utah. This law gave Funeral Directors custody of your dead loved one. For this fee they will do the death certificate and give you back the body.

D.C. Is the cost of filing a Death Certificate only, if you desire to care for your own dead without purchasing more.

Refrigeration: Funeral businesses in Utah are required to refrigerate **or** embalm **or** bury **or** cremate the body within 24hrs. Some mortuaries don't offer refrigeration on the premises.

The FTC "Funeral Rule" doesn't say you have to embalm if there is a viewing. It does allow the funeral business to set a policy of requiring embalming when a public viewing is planned.

Compiler's Personal Interpretation of FUNERAL RULE VIOLATIONS

The booklet "Complying with the Funeral Rule" published by the Federal Trade Commission (is free and can be ordered by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP) It helps the consumer know their rights to an easy to understand price list. All page #'s refer to this business guide, republished in June 2004

1. You don't have **to pay** for embalming that you did not consent to.Pg7,32. (You don't have to pay for body prep just because you want a private moment to see the unembalmed body before disposition. Pg 23)
2. Under Cremation the GPL must use similar wording to that in the Funeral Rule to disclose the alternative container option the mortuary provides. Ex) "The containers we offer are made of..."pgs7,43,44. An alt container must be made available. Item 453.4 (a)(1,2) **Continued on next page →**

3. If price list implies that only a certain type of container is acceptable or authorized, it must to state what type of container that is instead of just implying that what you bring may or may not be acceptable. See Disclosures on pg 20,24(#2) and See section 453.4 (A)(B)why it is not acceptable must be given in writing.
 4. Package prices must include what products or services are included in it. pg 9 ,10 pg 19
 5. **Misquoting law:** For example) If they state the need for embalming to cross state lines or exclude refrigeration as one of the options the law allows they are misrepresenting the law. See pg 23.
 6. Confusing Price List See pg 12-13. Utah State R156-9-502 (13).
 7. Memorial and/or Graveside and/or Viewing option(s) missing. Pg9
 8. Did not include whether or not the cremation fee is included in the price of cremation (some separate that, others don't say) See pg10 and 19 of Rule.
 9. Must list the price range of caskets and vaults offered. pgs 8, 13. AND the prices must be true.
 10. BYO (Bring Your Own) Casket Handling charge.(basically the same as #16 below)
 11. The cost of the alternative container could not be deducted. Bottom of Pg 9-10 and pg 27 "free items"
 12. Filing and documentation fee, of what? Consultation with another funeral home? These fees are included in basic services. Need to specify if you mean death certificate if no other services are purchased? Pg 11
 13. Under Immediate Burial and/or Cremation there must also be included the prices if you 1) bring your own casket, 2) buy one from the funeral business or 3) buy an alt. container. See pg 13, 24, 33,34.
 14. Listing "during the Funeral" in the basic services charge, then charging families for staff again during the funeral. pg 12 2nd & 5th paragraphs, and pg 13. See also sample GPL's pgs 32-38. (If it says "Additional" staff for "the funeral" is then the charge is ok.
 15. The basic service should include shelter of remains when it is "the usual" # of days (typically 3). See Rule pg 11 item5.
 16. Furnishing the purchase of a good or service upon the purchase of another good or service. Pg 26 See # 453.4 pg 44 of Rule. For example: Offering a package deal only to those who purchase a casket or some other product (see end of pg 8&11-12, also a clarification letter from the FTC.) Only offering cremations that include an urn purchase also break the Rule. Utah state Utah State R156-9-502 (13).
- Utah State Law allows a consumer to purchase a death certificate and burial transit permit service only: A) Did not supply a price for signing and filing a death cert **only**. B) Did not supply a price for refrigeration under other prep or does not have refrigeration facilities. 58-9-302(3)(c)(ii)

**Notice the date of last publication of each GPL used above when comparing prices.
To determine if there have been any changes contact the funeral business.**

Compiled by Funeral Consumers Alliance of Utah 801-226-2323

joyceinutah@gmail.com

To report any errors in this survey please call or email. If you are a mortuary that wants to improve their price list and have their listing updated on this survey please call or write.

February 2009 Survey of Utah Funeral Business Practices

¹ Info on how to "do it yourself" may be found at utahfunerals.org and health.utah.gov/vitalrecords