

END OF LIFE PLANNING

WHO DOES WHAT: A PRIMER

Funeral home: Picks up and cares for your loved one's body; arranges for a casket and other physical arrangements. You may use any funeral home you wish. Many congregants use Arthur A. Wright / Butterworth Funeral Home, next to our cemetery on Queen Anne Hill. (206) 282-5500.

Hills of Eternity / Home of Peace: Hills of Eternity is a cemetery owned and operated by Temple. Home of Peace is our mausoleum. Temple staff oversee the cemetery and sell plots and/or mausoleum placements. Our cemetery and mausoleum are for members only (except for rare exceptions).

Monument or memorial vendor: Gravestones or plaques are provided separately by a monument or memorial vendor, working within rules set by Temple. (Some parts of the cemetery only permit flush or flat markers.) You may use any monument vendor you wish; please contact Temple before contracting for a monument, as we require all vendors sign an agreement and provide insurance. Many Temple members use [Quiring Monuments](#) (206) 522-8400.

Caring Community: Temple volunteers who assist the ill, infirm, and grieving. They may provide transportation, meals, or other assistance (206) 323-8486.

Sacred Journeys: Temple volunteers who have themselves lost a loved one and feel called to assist mourners and the grieving. They provide chicken soup and challah, make condolence calls, and provide yahrzeit candles. Sacred Journeys sponsors Kever Avot, our High Holy Day cemetery service honoring our late loved ones.

PRE-DEATH PLANNING: THINGS TO CONSIDER

We recommend that you discuss with your loved ones their wishes. Our rabbis are available to assist with discussions. Consider the following questions:

- Where do you wish to be buried?
- Do you want a traditional funeral service? If so, a private service?
- Is cremation an option you wish to explore? (The Reform movement does permit cremation, and our cemetery and mausoleum accommodate cremated remains.)
- Have you made pre-arrangements with a funeral home? If not, do you have any preferences?

AT THE TIME OF DEATH: WHAT HAPPENS

- This is a stressful and confusing time. Temple is here to help care for you and your loved ones.
- For many people, the first thing to take care of will be to call a funeral home to pick up and care for your loved one's body. If your loved one dies in hospice or in the hospital, the hospice or hospital will call the funeral home for you. If your loved one is at home and not receiving hospice services, call 911.
- Please call Temple to let us know (206) 323-8486. If after hours, please follow the prompts for life-and-death emergency. You do not need to call immediately unless you wish to speak with us right away; calling the next morning is fine.
 - We will have a rabbi reach out to you and will begin working with you and the funeral home to plan timing and details for a funeral or memorial service. If your loved one has a plot or placement at Hills of Eternity/Home of Peace, we will take care of burial details.
 - As you work on burial details, please wait until we have confirmed our rabbi's and cemetery caretaker's availability before finalizing the day and time of a funeral.
 - Once funeral arrangements have been set, Temple staff will contact you to arrange for recognition within the Temple community, including at Shabbat services and via a congregational email, if you wish.
 - A Sacred Journeys volunteer will reach out to you to offer soup, challah, and comfort, if you wish.

AFTER THE FUNERAL

- You do not need to arrange for a monument or marker right away. In our tradition, a monument or marker is generally "unveiled" about a year after death. Our rabbis may officiate at an unveiling, or you may do a private unveiling. If you do wish a rabbi, please give us as much notice as possible.
- Kever Avot is our High Holy Day cemetery service, held on the Sunday between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Anyone who has lost a loved one is encouraged to attend, whether or not they are interred at Hills of Eternity / Home of Peace.