



funeralline

A U S T R A L I A

**Funeral Line Australia**

59 Patterson Road,

**BENTLEIGH 3204**

**Telephone:** (03) 9557 2932

**Fax:** (03) 9557 8505

**Email:** [info@funeralline.com.au](mailto:info@funeralline.com.au)

**Web:** [www.funeralline.com.au](http://www.funeralline.com.au)

## Funeral Service Options

There are many things to consider when planning a funeral. This includes:

- Burial or cremation?
- Cemetery, church, chapel or garden?
- Coffin or casket?
- How many people may be attending?
- Will you need refreshments after the service?
- How much do you expect or want to spend?
- What type of flowers would you like?
- Is there music you would like to have played?
- Are there any mementoes you would like present at the service, or would like to have buried with the deceased?
- Will you need transport on the day?
- Will you need a celebrant or clergy to do the Eulogy?
- Has the deceased left any written directions or wishes for the funeral?
- Will the funeral be a religious or civil ceremony?
- Does it need to meet cultural requirements?

### Where will the Service be held?

Church, Chapel or Garden

Any person can have a church service, chapel service or a service held at a place that holds some special significance – required that permission has been granted by the owner/council/business.

If using a church you will need permission from the minister/priest to allow the funeral service to take place.

Usually, the minister/priest will want to conduct any service held in their church, and they may also limit some areas of the service - e.g. length of eulogy/s and type or amount of music played during the service. This is not always the case, but needs to be considered. The priest or minister should inform the family of any guidelines.

In broad terms, a chapel is a room that can be used to hold a funeral service. Crematoriums, Funeral Directors and some Cemeteries have Chapels available for use specifically for this purpose.

Music is generally allowed at a chapel service, and some chapels have facilities to video tape the service for you. There are not usually any service guidelines to follow in a chapel, so families can feel free to hold a service that is both personal and unique, in honour of the person who has passed.

If planning an outside service, there are many things you may need to take into account.

For instance -

- Do you require seating?
- Do you require refreshments at the service?
- Could weather play a factor in the service?
- Is there easy access for the elderly, children or funeral staff?
- Will you need permission to hold a funeral service at the location?
- Will equipment be needed e.g. portable sound equipment or microphone?

There have been occasions where a family has held a service in a local sporting club/RSL club or community centre. Not all clubs or community centres permit this, and enquiries will need to be made to obtain approval.

## **Memorial Services**

A memorial service is one that occurs without the body being present.

If you have chosen not to have a traditional Funeral Service with the deceased present, a memorial service would generally take place between 1 week and 1 month after the death has occurred.

Incorporating many elements of a traditional funeral, this alternative can be held for many reasons, including

- A body has been lost at sea and never recovered
- The body was immediately cremated or buried after the death occurred
- The body was donated to science
- Monetary circumstances do not allow the family to have a funeral service at the time the passing occurs

Some families choose to have a memorial service at other significant times, for example, on the deceased's Birthday, or wedding anniversary or even the anniversary of their death.

A family may choose to have several Memorial Services. A memorial service is a service or a time of remembrance of the deceased.

There are no set rules, and you can really use this time to tailor it to those who are attending.