

# Casket Options in Utah

## **Wood Caskets premade:**

**Farr West:** Affordable Handmade Pine Caskets by Robert Alexander. Beautiful finished caskets from \$295 to \$1000. Near Ogden 801-388-9158 Email: [rwalexander@juno.com](mailto: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 deliver 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](mailto: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 Michael Scheetz crafts the old fashioned way at the website [HandcraftedCasketsAndCoffins.com](http://HandcraftedCasketsAndCoffins.com) \$650- \$1,100.

## **Instructions to make a Casket:**

You can find all kinds of casket-making plans (also a free plan on [UtahFunerals.org](http://UtahFunerals.org) caskets page and casket hardware on the Internet.

**Cardboard Caskets:** Decorate yourself, paint or cover with a tapestry. 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).

**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](http://www.eagleswingsair.com) (866) 550-1392 will help make the arrangements for scheduling and family pick-up at the airport. **We have one shipping container right now from a grateful family, yours for a \$30 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 doesn't require vaults but sells them for \$365: [www.PleasantGreen.net](http://www.PleasantGreen.net) Or choose a rural cemetery in Utah: [history.utah.gov/research\\_and\\_collections/cemeteries/index.html](http://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.