GUIDE FOR FAMILY-DIRECTED CARE OF THE DEAD IN UTAH

For more details see The Funeral Consumers Alliance “Step-by-Step instructions for a Family-Directed Funeral” or call our hotline 801-226-2323

DEATH OCCURS

Hospital or Nursing Home Death

- Let the Dr. and nurses know ASAP (even before death) that you will NOT be using a funeral director, and will be getting the Death Certificate and moving the body as a family.
- You must provide the hospital with a burial transit permit obtained thru the local Vital Records registrar at the Health Dept.
- The body must be in a casket or body bag to be transported.

Death During Hospice Care

- Call Hospice. The nurse will pronounce the death. Provide her with the started death record form. Tell her you need the Death Certificate ASAP to move the body.
- Hospice will get the Doctors signature and return the death record form to you to bring to the Vital Records office.

Unexpected Death

- Call 911. If they cannot resuscitate, the EMT or police or M.E. will pronounce death.

Expected Death

Or Death of natural causes

- Call attending physician if seen within 30 days. Otherwise call non-emergency police to pronounce death.

Begin Death Certificate ASAP

- Fill out the Death Record Form at health.utah.gov/vitalrecords. Take it to the Health Dept of the county where death occurred.

If Dr is on the Electronic Death Registration system (EDEN) the registrar will obtain the signature.

If Dr is not on EDEN, you will take the registrars’ form to the Dr for a signature then return it to the registrar.

Pay for the # of death certificates you want and the burial-transit permit.

Bring the death certificate to the newspaper if you plan to buy an obituary.

Cremation

- A permit is required from Vital Records (same one needed to transport a body).
- Authorization by next-of-kin or designated agent is also required.

Burial

- Each cemetery will have its own policies.
- To bury on your own rural property, file the location of your plot with the county.

Body Donation

- Register before death with U of U at 801-581-6728.
- Notify them immediately after death. Have an alternate plan as not every body is accepted.

Out of State

- The burial transit permit is required. All states honor properly acquired permits. Some Mortuary assist may be required in CT, IL, Iowa, IN, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, NY & NJ

For transport of body by common carrier: Eagle's Wing's Travel Agency  www.eagleswingsair.com
More info utahfunerals.org  Copyright 2012 Funeral Consumers Alliance of Utah