

Please send me the following items with my membership kit:

(A donation of \$1 for any 3 helps cover printing and postage costs.)

- Common Funeral Myths
- Cremation Explained
- Death Away From Home
- Did You Forget the Most Important Part of Funeral Planning?
- Don't Get Buried in Debt: Benefits of Membership in a Funeral Consumers Alliance
- Earth Burial: A tradition of Simplicity
- Eco-Friendly Death & Funeral Choices
- Four-Step Funeral Planning
- History of the Funeral Consumer Movement
- How Much Will My Funeral Cost
- How to Make a Funeral or Cemetery Complaint
- How to Help Grieving People
- How to Plan a Memorial Service
- How to Read a Funeral Home General Price List
- Light, Like the Sun: An Essay on Cremation
- No One Wants to Talk About Death: How to Help
- Organ & Body Donation
- Prepaying Your Funeral: Benefits & Dangers
- Recycle Your Medical Devices
- Simple & Cheap, My Father Said
- What You Should Know About Embalming
- Ten Tips for Saving Funeral Dollars
- Veterans Burial Benefits
- Viewing & Visitation: The Difference
- What Shall We Do With the Ashes?



If you would like to invite an FCIS speaker to make a presentation to your organization, or if you would like to volunteer a few hours a month for office tasks or other services, call us at 313/886-0998 or send an e-mail to info@funeralinformationsociety.org

Volunteer Opportunities include:

- Board Member •Treasurer •Price Survey Committee •Legislative Watch Committee •State Funeral Board Monitor •Legal Consultant •Speakers Bureau •Legislative Advocate •Fundraising Committee •Natural Burial Committee •Family-led Funeral Committee •Public Relations •Web Site

WHAT IS **FCIS?**

FUNERAL ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Funeral Consumers Information Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping our **neighbors** make funeral arrangements that are dignified, meaningful and affordable.

We help **consumers** help themselves through information and education, including pamphlets on a broad range of funeral-related topics, community-awareness presentations, personal consultations, funeral home price surveys and preplanning forms.

Founded in 1961, FCIS is one of more than 120 similar groups across the country affiliated with the national Funeral Consumers Alliance (www.funerals.org). We are run by volunteers. We have no attachment to the funeral industry or any religious group. Our membership is open to all Michigan residents.

Simply put, we are a group of people who have learned about planning funerals through personal experience and self-education, and we would like to share our knowledge with **you.**



funeral
consumers
INFORMATION
society

P.O. Box 24054
Detroit, MI 48224
313/886-0998
info@funeralinformationsociety.org
www.funeralinformationsociety.org

FCIS is a 501(C)3 organization supported by tax-deductible private contributions. Through your dues and donations, **you support** our ongoing educational programs and services to **your neighbors** across Michigan.



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EDUCATION INFORMATION ASSISTANCE

Neighbors
helping
neighbors

We plan for Birth.
We plan for College.
We plan for Taxes.
We plan for Retirement.
But most of us are afraid to plan for Death.

-Andrew H. Halcolm

Join the Funeral Consumers Information Society to learn more about dignified, meaningful and affordable funeral services.



How you benefit...

OBJECTIVITY. You get advice from knowledgeable volunteers who are not in the business of selling funeral services.

DIGNITY. You learn about dignified alternatives to excessive funeral displays.

SAVINGS. You save hundreds—if not thousands—of dollars on the cost of a funeral by making informed purchasing decisions.

CONFIDENCE. You are able to shop for services with full knowledge of your funeral-consumer rights.

KNOWLEDGE. As an informed consumer, you will receive more for your funeral dollar by avoiding unnecessary expenses.

SECURITY. You preplan your final wishes without the risks of prepayment.

PEACE OF MIND. You have the opportunity to discuss an important topic with your family, and you'll give them comfort knowing they are fulfilling your final wishes.

OPTIONS. You know the choices available, including natural burial, family-directed home funerals, immediate cremation, immediate burial and more.

REPRESENTATION. You know that an organization devoted solely to consumers is working on behalf of Michigan residents.

FOLDING instructions: This side, face up, fold in half. Fold in half again, with cover panel face up. Remove membership panel to join, keep this brochure for future reference. Send one to a friend.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Most individuals never share their funeral wishes with family members. FCIS members receive forms and instructions on how to communicate this information, so that relatives can make decisions on your behalf and avoid unwanted expenditures.
- The average cost of a conventional funeral in the U.S. is now more than \$6,500, according to the National Funeral Directors Association. FCIS members usually purchase simpler services for a fraction of the cost.
- Embalming and expensive caskets are not required for cremation or burial. FCIS members avoid unnecessary procedures and expenses by preplanning and knowing what is required by law.
- Your safety deposit box is a poor place to store your funeral instructions. FCIS members learn whom to notify before the time of death.
- When a body is not displayed, memorial services can be held almost anywhere. FCIS members learn about various options, including the home, community halls, places of worship and parks.

Members receive...

- Funeral Preplanning Kit, including information on living wills and a durable power of attorney for healthcare
- "Funerals: A Consumer Guide"
- Organ/body donation information/forms
- 24/7 emergency assistance
- FCIS annual newsletter
- Price survey of area funeral services
- Optional informative pamphlets
- Legislative alerts
- Invitation to FCIS member events

How it works

- Once you receive your membership kit, complete the planning forms using the simple step-by-step instructions.
- Keep a copy for your personal file, give one to your next of kin, and send a copy to FCIS.
- Upon death, your relatives simply contact a mortuary and pay for services

directly. Prepayment is not advised.

- If death occurs out of town, contact the national FCA office toll free to find a nearby alliance office. If you move, your membership can be transferred to another affiliate.

JOIN NOW!

Please enroll me in FCIS, and send me the Funeral Preplanning Kit. I have enclosed annual membership donation of \$20.

Family Membership includes spouse and children under 18, \$40.

Family Membership Names: _____

Transferring from another FCA group: _____ no charge.

Enclosed is an additional \$_____ contribution to the FCIS to help support its consumer-education mission.

See reverse side for additional options.

Name _____

Address _____

City/County/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

e-mail Address _____

How did you find out about FCIS?

In memory of: _____

Please mail with check or money order to:

Funeral Consumers Information Society
P.O. Box 24054
Detroit, MI 48224

