

Elements of an Interment Fee

So that the charge for our professional services may be recognized as fair and in keeping with the operations of an economical and efficient cemetery, we are listing below the many operations involved in performing this service properly.

- Discuss the arrangements for burial with funeral director and family.
- Examine the record of lot owner to determine ownership.
- Check permanent files for any special instructions issued by lot owner or affidavits affecting the burial.
- Make necessary phone calls.
- Prepare interment order and authorization for burial.
- Record interment on lot card.
- Prepare instructions for foreman for grave opening and closing operation.
- Foreman must layout exact location of grave; this must be verified by checker to avoid chance of error.
- Deliver necessary equipment to grave site (canvas, plywood, and boards to protect surrounding areas; hand tools, power equipment, etc. for breaking hard ground.)
- Excavate interment space by machine or by hand, if necessary
- Haul away surplus dirt, dump, and level dirt.
- Haul away all digging equipment.
- Help set up lowering device, casket place, grass, tent and chairs, when needed.
- Attendants to assist in carrying and arranging flowers, when necessary.
- Staff members are needed to help close vaults after service, help remove lowering device, fill in grave, re-sod, remove tent/chairs, and assist in rearranging flowers.
- Superintendent supervises and checks entire site.
- Remove excess dirt and clean up gravesite. Remove flowers when wilted.
- Refill and level grave when natural settling of the earth takes place.
- Maintain cemetery equipment. Most of the equipment that is required to perform above mentioned services properly represent an investment well over \$50,000.00. This will include a dump truck/trailer to haul away excess dirt, vehicle for delivery and pick up tools, specialized equipment, vault lowering equipment, casket lowering equipment, backhoe, hand tools, grave heater, and power equipment for digging in hard ground, etc.
- Render any extra service that may be needed or requested. First and foremost, a good cemetery is a service institution.
- Maintain an office staff so that a qualified person is available during business hours, 6 days a week, to assist in making burial arrangements. Maintain a service staff that is thoroughly trained and available when required.

When arranging for a burial, there can be no failure in service; no breakdown in equipment, no shortage of labor. No matter how severe or disagreeable the weather may be during the extreme heat of the summer or the bitter cold or the winter, this work must go on. **It's our hope that this explanation of our operations will create a better understanding of the professional services that we provide.**