

WELCOME:

Welcome to the Merkle Funeral Home. On behalf of the Merkle Funeral Service Staff we want to thank each and every one of you for visiting our facility or inquiring about our services. Merkle Funeral Service prides itself on being Monroe's premier service provider.

In this reference guide you will find information regarding Merkle Funeral Service including: general price list, our service offerings, payment choices, advanced planning, and our professional staff biographies. We hope that you find this resource guide to be a valuable and helpful addition to the funeral process.

Please feel free to contact our staff anytime at (734) 384-5185 or by e-mail at info@merklefuneralservice.com.

Sincerely,

Brian S. and Tammy Merkle

OUR LOGO:

The Lighthouse:

coastal building with light for sailors: a strategically placed coastal building, often a tall round tower, with a powerful flashing light, designed to guide sailors or warn them of dangers such as rocks

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GENERAL PRICE LIST:

All prices are effective as of June 1, 2007, but are subject to change without notice.

Premium Traditional Service:

Two days of visitation with third day funeral service at funeral home, church, or other facility. Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home, professional embalming, preparation of the deceased for viewing, use of staff for services, use of hearse for transportation to final place of disposition, and use of one service vehicle.

This service includes a complimentary Life Memories Video, the Lighthouse Program, and a \$250.00 credit towards selections from our exclusive:

*“LET US BE OF SERVICE” list. **

\$520.00 Discount

Standard Traditional Service:

One day of visitation with second day funeral service at funeral home, church, or other facility. Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home, professional embalming, preparation of the deceased for viewing, use of staff for services, use of hearse for transportation to final place of disposition, and use of one service vehicle.

This service also includes a complimentary Life Memories Video and the Lighthouse Program.

\$420.00 Discount

Basic Traditional Service:

Same day visitation and funeral service at funeral home, or one evening of visitation (up to 3 hours), and second day service at church or other facility. Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home, professional embalming, preparation of the deceased for viewing, use of staff for services, use of hearse for transportation to final place of disposition and use of one service vehicle.

\$295.00 Discount

Immediate Burial Service:

Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home, limited preparation of the deceased, use of staff for transportation to final place of disposition, use of utility vehicle for transportation to final place of disposition, and use of one service vehicle.

Immediate Cremation Service:

Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home, preparation of the deceased, use of staff for services, use of utility vehicle for transportation to final place of disposition and use of one service vehicle. This service does not include an alternative container, urn, or the cremation process.

Receiving Deceased from another Funeral Home:

Limited Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home within thirty miles of facility, limited preparation of the deceased.

Transfer of Deceased to another Funeral Home:

Limited Services of Funeral Director and Staff, transfer of deceased to funeral home within thirty miles of facility, professional embalming, limited preparation of the deceased.

Anatomical Donations:

This package includes initial transfer into our care, basic services of funeral director and staff and transportation to the donation center. This charge does not include any gatherings, ceremony, or other rites of passage.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

Services of Funeral Director and Staff:

Our fee for the basic services of funeral director and staff includes, but is not limited to:

- 24 hour availability of funeral home staff/facility to respond to initial request for service*
- Arrangement conference with family and responsible parties*
- Preparation and Placement of obituary notice in local and/or out of town newspapers*
- Preparation and filing of death certificates, permits and authorizations*
- Permanent retention and care of all records regarding this funeral*
- Assistance with filing life insurance and other benefits claims*
- Coordination of service plans with those providing other services*
- Also included are general overhead expenses relative to our facility*

Professional Embalming:

Except in certain special cases, embalming is not required by law. Embalming may be necessary, however, if you select certain funeral arrangements such as a funeral with viewing. If you do not want embalming, you usually have a right to choose an arrangement that does not require you to pay for it, such as direct cremation or immediate burial.

Other Preparation of the Deceased:

After the embalming procedure is completed, a licensed professional will prepare the deceased for viewing. These preparations may include dressing, the proper positioning of the deceased in the casket, application of cosmetics and other restoration procedures which may be needed in order to make the viewing of the deceased more pleasant.

Autopsy/Restorative Professional Work:

Storage of Deceased:

CEREMONIES:

-Gathering at Funeral Home:

Our services include: coordination of gathering, use of the Gathering Room, smoking and non-smoking lounge areas (stocked with coffee and tea), children's entertainment room, setup of the Gathering room including the display of floral arrangements and personalization items (or additional equipment/staff for other facilities), and family services assistants to greet your guests and assist you with all your needs throughout your gathering.

-Use of Staff and Equipment for Service:

Our services include coordinating the funeral arrangements at the church/funeral home, supervision of the service, and the necessary equipment and staff to conduct the service. This service also includes up to 2 hours of public visitation prior to the service.

-Additional Day for Gathering:

-Staff for Cemetery/Crematory Service:

Our services include coordinating the funeral arrangements at the Cemetery/Crematory, supervision of the Cemetery/Crematory service, and the necessary equipment and staff to conduct the Cemetery/Crematory service.

-Crematory Committal:

-The Lighthouse Program:

Allow our professional counselor to educate the children in your family about the funeral service process. Program is suggested for children ages 3-12, and up to 10 children from the immediate family.

TRANSPORTATION:

Use of Traditional Hearse/Funeral Coach:

(within 30 mile radius of funeral home)

Motorcycle Hearse:

Horse Drawn Hearse:

Transfer of Deceased from Place of Death:

(within 30 mile radius of funeral home)

Transfer to Cemetery/Crematory/or Airport

(within 30 mile radius of funeral home)

Service Vehicle:

(within 30 mile radius of funeral home)

Use of Limousine:

For up to 4 hours (\$75.00 per each additional hour)

Additional Mileage Charge beyond 30 miles:

(one way mile)

MUSIC AND VOCAL ACCOMPANIMENT:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| -Bagpiper: | \$ 175.00 |
| -Bugler/Trumpeter: | \$ 150.00 |
| -Harpist/Guitarist/Violinist/Flutist: | \$ 100.00 up |
| -Organist/Pianist: | \$ 100.00 |
| -Soloist: | \$ 100.00 |

***LET US BE OF SERVICE:**

After the death of a loved one, families find even the simplest tasks can become burdens. Allow our professionals to assist with any or all of the following services:

- Final Resting Place Delivery: **From \$125.00**
Let us be of service by allowing our professionals to make deliveries several times per year to your loved ones final resting place. (Several packages of Fresh and Artificial Flower Arrangements available, delivery within 30 miles of funeral home included).
- Home Cleaning: **\$ 95.00**
Let us be of service by allowing our professional to perform basic housecleaning, 2-3 hours (vacuuming, dusting, cleanup, dishes, etc.) Deep cleaning prices are available upon request.
- Home Coffee Service: **\$ 50.00**
Let us be of service by allowing our staff to provide coffee service: including coffee, coffee urn, filters, cups, and napkins for receiving guests at your home.
- Home Setup: **\$ 50.00**
Let us be of service by allowing our staff to deliver folding chairs for receiving guests at your home.
- Lawn Care: **As Needed**
Let us be of service by allowing our professional to cut, trim, and clean up and rake your yard as needed.
- Snow Removal: **As Needed**
Let us be of service by allowing our professional to clear your driveway and sidewalks after a snowfall.
- Tributes Pictures: **\$ 50.00**
Let us be of service to your family by taking digital photographs of all the Tributes (flowers, refreshments, throws, etc.) as they arrive. This will assist your family when

forwarding acknowledgement cards as well as forming a permanent keepsake of your event.

-Valet Parking **\$ 195.00**

Let us be of service by providing valet parking for all your guests throughout the gathering and funeral process. We will provide two staff members for up to eight hours of service. A rate of \$25.00 per hour will apply after eight hours. Please, No Gratuity!

-Vehicle Cleaning: **\$ 50.00**

Let us be of service by allowing our staff to pick-up your vehicle and vacuum the inside and wash the outside. Detail rates available upon request.

Ask our professional staff about our ERRANDS ASSISTANCE, PET CARE, SENIOR/ELDERLY CARE, and CHILDCARE services.

Our staff also can assist out of town guests with HOTEL RESERVATIONS, TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, BANQUET FACILITIES, AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION.

MEANINGFUL EXPRESSIONS:

Following are several unique MEANINGFUL EXPRESSIONS for memorial gatherings of a loved one.

-Balloon Release: **From \$ 25.00/ dz**

A balloon rising reminds us of the person we have lost and symbolizes our "letting go".

-Bird Release: **\$ 115.00**

-Butterfly Release: **\$ 95.00/dz.**

Ask one of our professional counselors about the SIGNATURE PILLOW, COMFORT BEARS, CANDLELIGHT, REMEMBRANCE VASE, TWO HEARTS CEREMONY, and the GOLD ROSE CEREMONY.

MERCHANDISE:

-Air-Tray: **\$ 145.00**

This container satisfies the requirements for air travel of casketed human remains.

-Alternative Container: **\$ 145.00**

This container satisfies the minimum requirements for encasing human remains for the crematory committal.

-Appreciation Gifts: **From \$ 2.50**

-Casket Price Range: **\$ 1695.00-13450.00**

All caskets in price range are displayed in our merchandise area. A complete list of all available caskets is available at the funeral home.

- Combination Tray: **\$ 195.00**
This container satisfies the requirements for air travel of non-casketed human remains.
- Cremation Casket Price Range: **\$ 595.00-1275.00**
All caskets in price range are displayed in our merchandise area. A complete list of all available caskets is available at the funeral home.
- Cremation Keepsakes and Jewelry: **From \$ 35.00**
- Cremation Rental Casket: **\$ 1095.00**
- Floral Arrangements: **From \$ 27.50**
- Grief Literature: **From \$ 4.95**
- Life Memories Video: **\$ 100.00**
Each Life Memories Video includes up to 50 photos. A Life Memories Video is included for each family who selects a traditional service. Additional copies are \$10.00 each.
- Memorial Packages: **From \$150.00**
- Outer Burial Container Price List: **\$ 740.00-3175.00**
- Urn Price List: **From \$ 25.00**
- Urn Vault Price List: **From \$105.00**

HOSPITALITY SERVICES:

Many families do not have adequate time for meal preparation. Other families greatly appreciate the convenience of having meals prepared for them. Let us be of service by allowing our professional caterer to provide meals simply for you and your family or include all of your guests.

Complete Funeral Luncheon:

Baked Chicken, Mostaccoli
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Corn
Tossed Salad
Rolls
\$7.95 per person
sheet cake for dessert
\$1.15 per person

Meat and Cheese Tray:

Serves up to 20 guests
Includes three loaves of bread
\$49.95

Condiment Tray:

Serves up to 20 guests
\$24.95

Fruit Platter:

Includes dip
Serves up to 15 people
\$29.95

Plan A:

2 meat selections
1 side selection
1 vegetable selection
\$10.25 per person

Plan B:

3 meat selections
1 side selection
1 vegetable selection
\$12.50 per person

Plan C:

4 meat selections
2 side selections
1 vegetable selection
\$14.95 per person

PAYMENT CHOICES:

Following are a list of acceptable methods that Merkle Funeral Service, Inc. has established for payment of funeral expenses. All financial arrangements must be satisfactorily completed prior to any services or merchandise being furnished.

- 1) Payment by cash, check, or money order.
- 2) Payment by credit card
- 3) Payment by life insurance policy;
 - A) acceptable when our staff files for you
 - B) requires policy value and beneficiary information to confirm
 - C) assignment must be made to the funeral home by beneficiary
 - D) not acceptable for medical examiner cases listing pending as cause of death
 - E) funeral home does reserve the right to charge an additional 5% for this service.
- 4) Payment by advanced funded funeral arrangement

In all situations, total payment is due by the day of the service. If for any reason payment is not made by the day of the service, a late charge will be assessed after 30 days at the rate of 7% per annum until the balance is paid in full.

ADVANCED PLANNING:

Why should you advance plan your funeral?

No one is better equipped to plan something so personal.

It gives you peace of mind.....

- Knowing that all of your personal choices will be documented.
- Relieving survivors of an expense they may have to assume.
- Guaranteeing funeral expenses at today's prices.
- Protecting insurance and savings for the benefit of your family.
- Recording vital statistics and family history; information that other family members may not know.

What do I need to do?

Advance planning funeral arrangements is as easy as a-b-c.

- a) Gathering Information:
Acquire all necessary biographical information about your life, family, and career.
- b) Choosing Your Arrangements:
Meet with one of our professional counselors who will explain options, costs, and answer all of your questions. This conference can even be made in the comfort of your own home and will usually take less than two hours.
- c) Funding the Funeral:
Choose a payment option that fits your budget. All plans are transferable if you choose to relocate to another area.