



# FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

## Funeral Consumers Alliance of Houston

An affiliate of the national Funeral Consumers Alliance ([www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org))

Website: [www.funeralshouston.org](http://www.funeralshouston.org)

Tel #s: 713-526-4267

If no Answer: 713-464-8877 or 713-301-8566 or leave message

**To-date more than 20,500 visitors have accessed our website**  
**[www.funeralshouston.org](http://www.funeralshouston.org).**

### Dear Members and Friends of the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Houston

**Join Us:** Our next Annual Member Meeting will take place on **Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 2 pm**, at the Unitarian Fellowship, 1504 Wirt. Please plan to attend and bring your family and friends. Refreshments will be served. Meet and greet starts at 1.30 p.m. and the official program begins at 2 p.m. We also extend an invitation to you to attend our brief board meeting afterwards.

**Jimmy Dunne**, FCAH Treasurer and Board member will speak at our March meeting. Jimmy is a native Houstonian and received a BBA Degree at the Univ. of Houston in 1957. He was a middle school math teacher in Houston ISD and founded People Opposed to Paddling Students in 1981 to abolish corporal punishment in schools. Texas is one of 19 states that still allows this child abuse in schools. Jimmy is also active with Amnesty International and Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

He will discuss his activities and practices round the world regarding unusual funerals and keeping the bodies in their homes.

On the following pages we are providing our Texas members and our communities with current versions of the following directives, which were provided by elder law attorney Clyde Farrell, who discussed them at the 2016 annual meeting of our national organization. All documents are available on our website [www.funeralshouston.org](http://www.funeralshouston.org).

- **Appointment of Disposition of Remains**
- **Body Disposition Authorization**

Due to their length, the following documents are only available on our website [www.funeralshouston.org](http://www.funeralshouston.org):

- **Directive to Physicians and Family or Surrogates**  
Advance Directives Act (see §166.033, Health and Safety Code)
- **Medical Power of Attorney**



Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**DURATION:**  
This appointment becomes effective upon my death.

**PRIOR APPOINTMENTS REVOKED:**  
I hereby revoke any prior appointment of any person to control the disposition of my remains.

**RELIANCE:**  
I hereby agree that any cemetery organization, business operating a crematory or columbarium or both, funeral director or embalmer, or funeral establishment who receives a copy of this document may act under it. Any modification or revocation of this document is not effective as to any such party until that party receives actual notice of the modification or revocation. No such party shall be liable because of reliance on a copy of this document.

**ASSUMPTION:**  
THE AGENT, AND EACH SUCCESSOR AGENT, BY ACCEPTING THIS APPOINTMENT, ASSUMES THE OBLIGATIONS PROVIDED IN, AND IS BOUND BY THE PROVISIONS OF, SECTION 711.002 OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE.

**SIGNATURES:**  
This written instrument and my appointments of an agent and any successor agent in this instrument are valid without the signature of my agent and any successor agents below. Each agent, or a successor agent, acting pursuant to this appointment must indicate acceptance of the appointment by signing below before acting as my agent.

Signed this \_\_\_\_ day of, 20\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_  
(your signature)

State of Texas

This document was acknowledged before me on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 by (name of principal).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of Texas

**ACCEPTANCE AND ASSUMPTION BY AGENT:**  
I have no knowledge of or any reason to believe this Appointment for Disposition of Remains has been revoked. I hereby accept the appointment made in this instrument with the understanding that I will be individually liable for the reasonable cost of the decedent's interment, for which I may seek reimbursement from the decedent's estate.

Acceptance of Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of agent)

1. Acceptance of Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of first successor)

2. Acceptance of Appointment: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of second successor)

## BODY DISPOSITION AUTHORIZATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), based on the authority of the Texas Health and Safety Code, §711.002(g), make the following declaration and directive concerning the disposition of my body after my death: I declare that it is my wish and I hereby authorize and direct that, upon my death, my remains be (**initial** one box):

- Cremated
- Interred at a cemetery or on private property
- Interred at a mausoleum
- Donated to medical science; if this disposition is not possible because no medical or research facility will accept my body, I direct that my remains be (**initial** one box):
- Cremated
  - Interred at a cemetery or on private property
  - Interred at a mausoleum
  - Other disposition as specified:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Other disposition as specified:

\_\_\_\_\_

### SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGED BEFORE NOTARY

I sign my name to this body disposition authorization on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month, year) at \_\_\_\_\_ (city, state)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

State of Texas  
County of \_\_\_\_\_

This instrument was acknowledged before me on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) by \_\_\_\_\_ (name of person acknowledging).

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of Texas  
Notary's printed name:

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIST OF COOPERATING FUNERAL HOMES** in Alphabetical Order

Prices change—always call for up-to-date information

<b>AFFINITY MEMORIAL CENTER</b> (previously Aldine Funeral Chapel) 221 West Airtex, Suite 221., Houston, TX 77037 <a href="http://www.aldinecremation.com">http://www.aldinecremation.com</a> 15% discount for FCA Houston members	281.591.6055
Direct cremation up to 250 lbs.	\$ 1,195
Direct burial, incl. 20-gauge steel casket	\$1,598
Gravesite service, incl. 20-gauge steel casket	\$2,147
Traditional funeral, incl. service at funeral home or Houston area church with embalming/open casket and night of viewing.	\$2,895
Distance charges beyond Harris County (Galveston, Ft. Bend, Liberty, Wallace, Brazoria)	\$ 158

<b>ALLEN DAVE FUNERAL HOME</b> Houston, Humble, Cypress, Katy, Klein, Spring, Sugar Land, The Woodlands 2103 Cypress Landing Dr., Houston, TX 77090 Brenham, Lyons, Somerville Caldwell, Bryan & Navasota Killeen & Central Texas Harker Heights Temple, TX Shreveport, LA Email: <a href="mailto:allendaveusa@yahoo.com">allendaveusa@yahoo.com</a> /Fax: 713.634.2707 Website: <a href="http://www.AllenDave.com">www.AllenDave.com</a>	713.480.2966
Direct cremation up to 275 lbs. (if body is picked up at a hospital, morgue, or other public facility. If p/u at other location, incl. home, add \$200.)	\$695
Direct cremation 276 – 350 lbs. maximum	\$995
Immediate burial with basic casket (Monday – Friday only)	\$1495
Traditional funeral with service at funeral home or church, incl. visitation/viewing one hour prior to funeral, incl. embalming, basic casket (Monday – Friday only)	\$2495 - \$2995

<b>BERESFORD FUNERAL SERVICE</b> 13501 Alief-Clodine, Houston, TX 77082 Email: <a href="mailto:info@beresfordfunerals.com">info@beresfordfunerals.com</a> /Fax: 281.933.9094 Website: <a href="http://beresfordfunerals.com">beresfordfunerals.com</a>	281.933.9090
Direct cremation	\$1,595
Cremation with Memorial Service or other Options (please contact funeral home for information)	\$2,195 - \$5,995
Traditional funeral service – different options available.	\$3,995 - \$7,995
<b>GREEN BURIAL:</b> The Beresford Funeral Home uses the Carmen Nelson Bostick Cemetery in Tomball, TX, a privately owned cemetery. Please contact Beresford for information.	

<b>CARNES FUNERAL HOME</b> 3100 Gulf Fwy (near exit 16), Texas City, TX 77591 <a href="http://www.carnesfuneralhome.com">http://www.carnesfuneralhome.com</a>	888.822.7637
Direct cremation (Harris County)	\$ 835
Contact funeral home for all other prices	

<b>CLAIRE BROTHERS FUNERAL HOME</b> 7901 Hillcroft St, Houston 77081-7205	713.271.7250
Email: <a href="mailto:funeral198@aol.com">funeral198@aol.com</a> /Website: <a href="http://www.clairebrothersrileysmith.com">www.clairebrothersrileysmith.com</a>	
Direct cremation (Harris County)	\$ 795
Direct burial, 20-gauge steel casket	\$ 1990
Direct burial with graveside service	\$ 2290
Traditional funeral (20-gauge steel casket, chapel service, embalming, cosmetology)	\$ 3095
Distance charge: \$2.75/mi for distance beyond 50 miles (county exceptions) Languages spoken: English, Spanish, Cebuano, Filipino, French, Italian. Services: Protestant, Catholic, & others.	

<b>DEER PARK FUNERAL DIRECTORS</b> 336 E. San Augustine St., Deer Park, TX 77536 <a href="http://www.deerparkfuneraldirectors.com">www.deerparkfuneraldirectors.com</a>	281-476-4693
Direct cremation (‡ Price for FCAH members)	\$ 650
Immediate burial, 20-gauge steel casket	\$ 1495
Graveside service, 20-gauge steel casket, no embalming	\$ 1920
Distance charges and available services: Contact the funeral home	
<b>GREEN BURIAL:</b> Basic services of funeral director & staff, refrigeration, dressing & casketing the deceased, coordination & direction of graveside service, transfer of remains to funeral home, Green Burial casket*, transfer to Green Cemetery, one grave space in Green Cemetery marker section (for upright marker section, add \$175), & Register Book. Green Cemetery is in Tranquility Oaks Cemetery in Spring. <u>This cemetery is owned by the SCI Corporation.</u> (Green Burial products are made from sustainable biodegradable materials, are metal-free, and are suitable for burial in all cemeteries, including both traditional and conservation cemeteries.)	\$ 5595
*Natural Burial Trundle & Shroud (instead of Green Burial casket)	\$ 4545

<b>FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME &amp; CEMETERY</b> 8706 Almeda-Genoa Rd, Houston, TX 77075 <a href="http://www.forestlawnfuneralhomehouston.com">http://www.forestlawnfuneralhomehouston.com</a>	713.991.9000
Direct cremation	\$ 1315
Direct Cremation with Viewing, incl. service fee, embalming, 1-day visitation, removal within 40 m of funeral home, transportation to crematory, rental casket, standard cremation container, crematory fee, plastic cremains container, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$ 3045
Direct Cremation, then Memorial Service, incl. service fee, removal within 40 m of funeral home, transportation to crematory, standard cremation container, crematory fee, plastic cremains container, memorial service, wooden urn rental for memorial service, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$1,620
Direct Burial, incl. Gravesite Service ( <b>closed casket</b> ), incl. service fee, dressing and casketing, washing and disinfecting, gravesite service & equipment, removal within 40 m of funeral home, hearse, service vehicle, casket, outer burial container, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$4362

Direct Burial, incl. Gravesite Service ( <b>open casket</b> ), service fee, embalming, dressing & casketing, washing & disinfecting, gravesite service & equipment, removal within 40 m of funeral home, hearse, service vehicle, casket, outer burial container, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$4807
Traditional Funeral with <b>Gravesite Service</b> , incl. service fee, embalming, dressing & casketing, viewing per day, gravesite service & equipment, removal within 40 m of funeral home, hearse, service vehicle, casket, outer burial container, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$5122
Traditional Funeral with <b>Church Service</b> , incl. service fee, embalming, dressing & casketing, viewing per day, church service, gravesite service & equipment, removal within 40 m of funeral home, hearse, service vehicle, casket, outer burial container, police escorts, 1 death certificate, 20 prayer cards	\$5622
Distance charge, body pickup: \$2.25/mi beyond 50 miles. Languages spoken: English, Spanish, Vietnamese. Services: Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Islamic, Greek Orthodox.	

<b>CEMETERY: HOUSTON MEMORIAL GARDENS</b> 16000 Cullen Blvd, Pearland 77581 Plot, open/close grave, grave liner. Prices increase due soon. Phone for new prices.	281.485.2221 \$2,450
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<b>ORGAN DONATION</b> (call or refer to website) – May save the lives up to 5 persons: Life Gift Organ Donation Center ( <a href="http://www.LifeGift.org">www.LifeGift.org</a> ) Life Legacy Foundation ( <a href="http://www.LifeLegacy.org">www.LifeLegacy.org</a> ) Bio Gift ( <a href="http://www.biogift.org">www.biogift.org</a> )  Texas Organ Sharing Alliance ( <a href="http://www.donatelifetexas.org">www.donatelifetexas.org</a> )	713.737.8111 888.774.4438 866.670.1799  512.459.4848
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<b>BODY DONATION TO MEDICAL SCHOOL</b> Baylor College of Medicine ( <a href="http://www.bcm.edu">www.bcm.edu</a> ) Univ. of TX Health Sciences Center ( <a href="http://www.uth.tmc.edu/nba/willedbody">www.uth.tmc.edu/nba/willed body</a> ) University of TX Health Sciences Center ( <a href="http://www.uth.tmc.edu/nba/willabody">www.uth.tmc.edu/nba/willabody</a> ) <i>Cremation free; charges for death certificate.</i>	713.798.3858 713.500.5603 713.798.3858
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**Donations have some limitations, such as cancer, HIV / AIDs, tuberculosis, or hepatitis B/C.**

<b>Other Contact Resources:</b> Bereavement Foundation Harris County Burial Assistance Texas Funeral Service Commission Texas Department of Insurance Monuments, headstones, etc. Rose Monument Co. Call for service delivery information	281.980.7505 713.696.1952 888.667.4881 888.827.8818 713.880.8091
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Member of the Federation of Nonprofit Funeral Information Societies

1504 Wirt Road, Houston, TX 77055

NONPROFIT ORG.

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

The Funeral Consumers Alliance of Houston is a nonprofit, nonsectarian, 501(c)(3) organization of volunteers solely dedicated to protecting the public's right to choose meaningful, dignified, and affordable funerals.

Thank You for Your Tax-Deductible Contribution

(Contributions can be deductible as charitable donations for tax purposes.)

MY GIFT/CHECK OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ IS ENCLOSED.

Current Member

Membership Application

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Send your contribution to: FCAH, 1504 Wirt Rd, Houston, TX 77055