

What to Expect from Funeral Homes after a Home Death during the Pandemic

Funeral home staff will be coming into the home to transport your family member who has died from the home. They will treat you and your family member with dignity and respect during this difficult time.

During a pandemic, it is important that safe handling practices are used with all deceased persons. Funeral home staff will follow these requirements in a respectful and caring manner. There may be differences in how funeral homes follow these requirements during the pandemic.

When you call a funeral home to report the death of your family member, they may ask some health screening questions related to COVID-19 that apply to both your family member as well as anyone else in the home. It is important for funeral home staff to know if anyone in the home is showing symptoms of illness so they can protect themselves, and you, accordingly.

When they arrive, funeral home staff may be wearing personal protective equipment to protect themselves as well as to protect you. This may include gloves, face mask, eye protection and/or full protective suits. They may ask you to follow physical distancing guidelines and may ask you to leave the room while they prepare the deceased person for transport and/or while they are transporting the deceased person from the home. During the pandemic, all deceased persons will be placed into body bags before transport.

If you are in need of additional support, please call 811 or your healthcare provider.