



## **Toppitzer Funeral Home, Inc.**

**Joan M. Hagan, Supervisor**

2900 State Road  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026  
(610) 259-1111

Families who are arranging funeral or cremation services must consider three categories of expense:

- **Professional Service Fees** of the funeral home as outlined on our General Price List or GPL. In some cases referred to as our menu of services.
- **Merchandise Expenses** as outlined on our GPL, Casket, Burial Vault and Urn Price Lists.
- **Cash Advance Items** which may include but are not limited to: newspaper notices, clergy/church fees, flowers, certified copies of the death certificate, airfare, limousines, professional pallbearers and luncheon expenses.

Please note that the cost of cash advance items is not guaranteed as part of a funeral trust. Families should allocate a minimum dollar amount for each category in a pre-paid trust. If funds allocated for cash advances are insufficient to cover them at the time of the funeral, then the cost difference will be billed to the family. However, if the funds exceed the actual cost, the difference will be refunded to the family.

**Newspapers notices** vary in price from paper to paper, most charging by the line. Typically, the Philadelphia Inquirer averages \$475 and the Delaware County Daily Times averages \$375. Every newspaper has different policies with regard to paid/unpaid death notices and unpaid obituaries. The funeral home submits obituaries but can not guarantee their printing or final content. Weekly papers now charge \$40.-75.

**Clergy/church fees** for services at the Funeral Home it is suggested that an honorarium be given to the officiating clergy in the amount of \$175-200. If the service is in a Church, the fees are typically \$300+ church fee or clergy, \$100-200 viewing fee, \$100-150 organist, \$100-150 soloist and a \$50 sexton fee (in lieu of a sexton there is usually a \$20 gratuity for a sexton and \$10 per altar server in Catholic churches).

**Flower prices vary** based on the type, size and season of the year. Typical/traditional funeral baskets begin at \$75 each and Casket sprays begin at \$200. Specialty pieces are also available and may include: pillows \$40, hinge pieces \$50, floral rosaries \$70, standing sprays or hearts \$150 to \$200. These arrangements typically include carnations, mums, spider mums minimal roses and seasonal filler flowers. Special flower requests are available in consultation with the local florists.

**Certified copies** of the death certificate in Pa are \$6ea. Initially; \$9ea. for a re-order; most out of state certificates are \$10 ea or more.

**Airfare** is based on weight, distance and air line carrier. The average airfare ranges from a minimum \$288 to as much as \$800. This charge is applicable if the death occurs outside of the immediate driving area.

**Limousines** are rented on an at-need basis. The basic rate is \$395 for 4 hours and \$100 for each additional hour.

**Luncheon** expenses vary and are not typically paid for by the funeral home. It may be included as a cash advance item as part of pre-need, pre-paid trust. The funds for the luncheon will be paid to the family and not the restaurant. All luncheon arrangements are the responsibility of the family.