

April 2026

Quarterly Newsletter

Clement L.
PANTALONE FUNERAL HOME, INC.



THE CLEMENT L. PANTALONE FUNERAL HOME, INC. CELEBRATES ITS 55TH ANNIVERSARY!

This year marks a very special milestone for our family and our community—55 years of service to the families we are honored to serve.

Since opening our doors in January of 1971, we have remained committed to meeting the needs of each family with care, compassion, and respect. Our founder, Clement L. Pantalone, believed deeply in the importance of providing individualized service, a principle that continues to guide everything we do today. Since his passing in 1989, our family has proudly carried on his tradition, treating every family we serve with dignity and personal attention.

Over the past five and a half decades, we have continued to grow and adapt while staying true to our core values and we are always looking for meaningful ways to better serve our families.

Our commitment remains simple: when a family calls us, they can trust that every detail will be handled with care. We are here to guide you through difficult moments and help create a personal and lasting tribute to your loved one.

As we reflect on 55 years, we are deeply grateful for the trust our community has placed in us, and we look forward to continuing to serve families for generations to come.

In this newsletter you can expect:

Upcoming Events

Grief Corner

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Helpful Hints

S&S Victoria Cadillac XT6 Hearse



We are proud to share an exciting addition to our funeral home. At last year's funeral directors' convention, we began the process of ordering a new hearse to enhance our fleet and better serve the families who place their trust in us. In November 2025, we were honored to take delivery of our new S&S Victoria Cadillac XT6 Hearse.

This beautiful vehicle is designed with both functionality and dignity in mind. As a full-size hearse, it comfortably accommodates a casket along with floral tributes. It also features a unique, thoughtfully designed urn holder that rises from the floor, allowing for the respectful transportation of cremation urns.

One of the most meaningful aspects of this new addition is the inclusion of our original Pantalone Funeral Home nameplates, displayed in the windows. These plates were purchased by my dad when he established the funeral home in 1971, and their presence on this new hearse is a tribute to our history and our continued commitment to the community.



View of Cremation Urn Holder

Upcomming Events

- 4/29 Dinner & Discussion, Wednesday 6 pm
The Boulevard, Greensburg
- 6/17 Picnic & Plan, Wednesday 6 pm
Pantalone Pavilion
- 08/15 Open House, Saturday 2 - 5 pm
Pantalone Funeral Home
- 08/19 Picnic & Plan, Wednesday 6pm
Pantalone Pavilion
- 10/17 Annual Fall Family Night, Saturday 2-4
Pantalone Pavilion
- 12/2 Annual Holiday Memorial Program, Wednesday 6pm
Rizzo's Bauquet Center, Crabtree



Grief Corner

I was recently coaching a client who lost her husband. She was crying as she told me “I just want to be happy again.” She whispered it as if it was some secret she had to keep because if she dared to say it out loud it would seem insensitive, or outrageous or indicate that she somehow didn't love or miss him.

Here is what I want to say to you today. You have a right to be happy again. You only get this one life. And to live the rest of it in misery is not a good life. Your grief, your pain, your suffering are NOT a sign of how much you loved your person.

Your life together, and how you choose to remember your loved one and honor that love you shared is a much better and healthier sign.

Grief is hard. It is painful and you can suffer greatly, BUT it does not have to last forever.

There is a way to move through. And you should move through. Grief is a journey, not a destination. You can't go around it, under, or over it, you must go through it.

It takes a lot of work to heal. But it is possible. And the lessons you can learn along the way are some of the most valuable you will ever learn in your lifetime.

Find a good grief coach, a therapist specializing in grief, or a support group to get started on your healing journey.

You don't have to whisper any longer, it's ok to heal and it's the way it should be.

Sherrie Dunlevy is founder of the Graduating Grief community on Facebook and host of the Graduating Grief Podcast. For more information go to: Graduating Grief - Grief Support, Services, & Academy - Sherrie Dunlevy graduatinggrief.com

Sign up for weekly GriefSteps™

The advertisement features a laptop on the left and a hand holding a smartphone on the right. The laptop screen displays the website www.pantalone.com/obituary-listings with a red circle highlighting the 'GriefSteps' sign-up form. The smartphone screen shows the mobile version of the sign-up form, which includes the text: 'A Year of Grief Support. Sign up for one year of weekly grief messages designed to provide strength and comfort during this challenging time.' Below this text is an 'Email address' input field and a 'SUBMIT' button. The background of the advertisement is a light beige color with the 'GriefSteps' logo in the center. At the bottom of the advertisement, the URL www.pantalone.com/obituary-listings is displayed.

www.pantalone.com/obituary-listings

Clergy Corner

Funeral and Burial Rites stand as a Countercultural Witness

Christians—and Catholics in a particularly developed way—have long shown profound reverence for the deceased because of what they believe about the human person, the body, and the promise of eternal life. This reverence is not merely cultural sentimentality; it flows from theological conviction, natural moral law, and the example of Christ himself. Importantly, this respect is not reserved only for believers but extends to every human person without exception.

At the heart of Christian belief is the understanding that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God. Because this dignity is inherent—not earned by belief, social standing, or moral perfection—it does not disappear at death. The body is not a disposable shell but an integral part of the person, destined not for annihilation but for resurrection. The burial of Jesus after the Crucifixion, carried out with care and tenderness by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, became the model for Christian practice: even in death, the body is treated with honor because it once bore the life of the soul and will one day share in glory.

This reverence naturally expands to all people. Christianity teaches that God's creative act confers dignity universally; therefore, the obligation to treat the dead with respect is not limited by religion, nationality, poverty, or circumstance. Historically, Christians became known in the ancient world for burying not only their own dead but also abandoned strangers and even victims of plagues when others fled in fear. To care for the dead—who can offer nothing in return—is a radical expression of the belief that human worth is never conditional.

For Catholics, funeral rites serve several important purposes. First, they are acts of worship. The Funeral Mass is not primarily a celebration of a life, but a proclamation of Christ's victory over death. Scripture is proclaimed, the Paschal Mystery is remembered, and the Church intercedes for the soul of the departed, trusting in God's mercy.

Second, these rites express charity toward the deceased. Praying for the dead has been part of Christian life since the earliest centuries, rooted in the belief that the communion of saints binds the living and the dead together in Christ. To commend someone to God through prayer is one of the greatest spiritual works of mercy.

Third, burial practices uphold the dignity of the body. Whether through traditional interment or reverent entombment, the Church insists that human remains never be treated as objects or reduced to mere utility. A grave becomes sacred ground—a quiet proclamation that this person mattered, was loved, and awaits the resurrection.

Finally, funerals serve the living. They provide a structured moment for grief, hope, and remembrance within the embrace of a community. Even when the deceased is unknown to us, the act of honoring their life reinforces a broader social truth: a society is judged by how it treats its most vulnerable, including those who have no voice at life's end.

In a culture that can sometimes rush past death or privatize mourning, the Christian—especially Catholic—commitment to funeral and burial rites stands as a countercultural witness. It reminds the world that human dignity does not end at death and that love extends beyond the grave. Reverence for the deceased is therefore not only about honoring one life; it is a declaration that every human life possesses an enduring and sacred worth.

In Christ,
Fr. Chris Pujol

A Gentle Guide to Moving Forward

Losing someone you love is hard, and sorting through their belongings can feel overwhelming. Cleaning out a home after a death is both a tangible task and an emotional journey. Taking one step at a time, it can create space for healing and memory.

Here are ten gentle steps to help you navigate this process with care.

Ask for support. You don't have to do this alone. Enlist trusted friends or family to help, even if only for a few hours at a time. Shared effort lightens the load and provides emotional backup.

Set a realistic timeline. Give yourself a practical deadline so the task doesn't linger indefinitely. Break the project into manageable sessions and be gentle with yourself if delays arise.

Start small. If the home feels vast, begin with one room or even a single closet. Completing small areas can build momentum and reduce the feeling of becoming overwhelmed.

Create simple sorting categories. As you go, sort items into clear groups: keep, donate, sell, and trash. Label boxes or bags in order to stay organized and on task.

Be mindful with keepsakes. It's natural to want to hold onto meaningful items. Allow yourself to pause and reflect and set aside items you're unsure about — you can revisit them later rather than trying to decide in the moment.

Capture memories with photos. Taking photos of items you're unsure about can help you let go later. A quick photo preserves the memory without keeping physical clutter.

Check in with relatives. What matters to one person may be meaningful to another. If you're unsure about an item, consider sharing it with a family member who might want it.

Allow yourself to grieve. This work can trigger a range of emotions. Permit yourself to cry, feel, and have moments of quiet. Grief is a natural part of the process.

Take breaks. If you feel overwhelmed, step away. A short walk, a meal, or a moment of stillness can restore balance and help you return with clearer eyes.

Mark the completion in a meaningful way. When you've finished, acknowledge the effort and the love behind the task. A small ritual—listening to your loved one's favorite song, lighting a candle, or sharing a memory with someone—can provide closure.

Legal Corner

Legal Corner: Understanding Probate vs. a Short Certificate **By Long & Long, LLC**

When administering an estate, two terms often come up that can be confusing: probating a will and obtaining a short certificate. While they are closely related, they serve very different purposes.

Probating a will is the formal legal process that takes place after someone passes away. In Pennsylvania, this process is handled through the County Register of Wills.

During probate:

- The will is submitted and reviewed to confirm its validity.
- The individual named as executor is officially appointed.
- The executor is granted legal authority to begin administering the estate.

This step is essential because, without probate, the executor has no legal authority to act on behalf of the estate.

A short certificate is a document issued after probate has been completed. It serves as official proof that the executor has been appointed and has authority to act.

Executors commonly use a short certificate to:

- Access bank accounts
- Transfer or sell real estate
- Handle financial and legal matters on behalf of the estate

Think of it as a credential the executor presents to third parties to confirm their authority.

- Probate is the process of validating the will and appointing the executor.
- Short Certificate is the document that proves the executor's authority after probate is complete.

The attorneys at Long & Long, LLC assist clients throughout Western Pennsylvania with estate planning, probate, estate administration, and guardianship matters, providing clear guidance and practical support when it matters most. 724.834.9300 | longandlongllc.com

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

In our ongoing commitment to Greensburg and surrounding communities, we're launching a volunteer program.



Recently we marked our second volunteer outing, and we're hoping to make this a monthly event. As part of our staff volunteer program, team members helped with "Joyful Celebration," held in the fellowship hall at Greensburg Church of the Brethren. All people with developmental disabilities are invited to attend free of charge. We helped with serving food, cleaning up, and assisting with crafts. It was a wonderful evening giving back to our community, and we're excited to continue supporting this meaningful program. Thank you Samantha and Nate for your help.

If you know of additional group volunteer activities, please share them—we'd love your suggestions.



French Onion Pork Chop Skillet

Recipe Corner

French Onion Pork Chop Skillet

Total Time: 35 minutes / Makes: 6 servings

Ingredients:

- 6 boneless pork chops (1-1 ½ pound, ½ 'thick)
- 2 onions, thinly sliced
- 2 Tbsp. Worcestershire Sauce
- 1 package of Stove Top Chicken Stuffing
- 1 ½ cup of hot water
- 1 cup of shredded Mozzarella Cheese
- Garlic Powder, salt and pepper

Directions:

Heat a large nonstick skillet with oil on medium heat. Lightly season pork chops with Garlic powder, salt and pepper.

Add chops and onions to the skillet and cook for 10 minutes or until chops are cooked through. (160 degrees F)

Stir occasionally and turn chops over after 5 minutes.

Transfer chops to a plate and tent to keep warm.

Continue cooking onions for 5 more minutes or until golden brown.

Add Worcestershire sauce to the skillet and mix well. Reduce heat to low.

Return the chops to the skillet and spoon onion mixture over the chops.

Mix stuffing mix and hot water and then spoon stuffing mixture around edge of skillet and sprinkle with the cheese until melted.

Helpful Hints

- Check and test smoke detectors and CO detectors; replace batteries twice a year with Daylight Savings Time.
- Use space heaters only when at home; keep at least 3 feet from flammable materials.
- Keep flashlights and fresh batteries for power outages; avoid candles if possible.
- Keep a phone within easy reach of the bed.
- Install non-slip surfaces in showers and bathtubs (mat, decals, or non-slip mat).
- Install a sturdy grab bar in tub/shower (not a towel rack).
- Use non-skid backing on throw rugs if used.
- Use a sturdy step stool with a grab bar, not a chair.
- Ensure stairways have sturdy handrails.
- Install outside lighting at all home exits.
- Post emergency numbers near the phone and list medications and dosages.
- When cooking, keep pot/pan handles turned inward.
- Store fire extinguishers in accessible locations: under the kitchen sink, and in the garage, living room, laundry room, and each bedroom.



Here are three of our favorite picnic side dishes we serve.

Block Party Barbecued Baked Beans

Ingredients:

- 1 pound of ground beef
- 1 chopped onion
- 2 cans (16 oz.) pork and beans
- 1 can (15 ½ oz.) mild chili beans
- ½ cup barbecue sauce
- ¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 Tablespoon yellow mustard

Directions:

- Brown ground beef in a nonstick skillet on medium heat and drain.
- Add onions and cook until they are tender, stirring occasionally.
- Stir in remaining ingredients.
- Spoon into a disposable foil pan and cover tightly with foil.
- Place pan directly on a grill that has been preheated to medium heat.
- Grill for 10 to 15 minutes or until the bean mixture is heated thoroughly through.

Pasta Salad

Ingredients

1 package (16 ounces) penne, rotini or fusilli pasta
2 cups vegetables, such as bell pepper strips, cherry tomato halves and red onion slices
1 cup cubed cheese
1 cup diced pepperoni
1 bottle (8 ounces) Italian or ranch salad dressing
1/4 cup McCormick Salad Supreme

Directions

1. Cook pasta as directed on package. Rinse under cold water; drain well.
2. Place pasta and vegetables in large bowl. Add dressing and Seasoning; toss gently to coat. Cover.
3. Refrigerate at least 4 hours or until ready to serve. Toss before serving.

Mega Egga Macaroni Salad

Ingredients

2 pounds elbow noodles
12 hardboiled eggs, peeled and diced
1/2 onion, finely diced
4 celery stalks, finely diced
1/4 cup pickle relish
3 cups heavy mayonnaise
2 tablespoons salt, or to taste
1 teaspoon coarsely cracked black pepper
Dash hot sauce
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

Directions

1. In a large pot with salt, boil pasta for 12 to 15 minutes until cooked. Stir often. Drain and cool. Refrigerate for 30 minutes.
2. In a large pot with a dash of salt, add eggs on medium high heat. Bring to a boil. Cover and remove from heat. Let eggs sit for 6 to 7 minutes. Remove eggs and shock in ice water. Once thoroughly cooled, peel eggs and roughly dice.
3. Place pasta in a large bowl. Add onions, celery, eggs, relish, mayonnaise, salt and pepper, hot sauce and Worcestershire. Mix until well combined.



Are Your Ducks in a Row?

Life isn't a straight line, but planning ahead can bring real peace of mind. At Pantalone Funeral Home, Inc., our preplanning services are thoughtful, straightforward, and designed to respect your wishes—and your family.

By preplanning, you can:

- Ease the Burden: Put your preferences in writing so loved ones aren't left guessing.
- Personalize Your Service: Music, readings, and special details that celebrate your life.
- Peace of Mind: The confidence that your wishes are honored provides comfort for you and those who matter most.
- Simple, Clear Process: Guidance every step of the way, at a pace that fits you.

Why now? Proactive planning can reduce stress for families and ensure your wishes are carried out just as you envision.

Call us at 724-837-0020 or visit pantalone.com to start the conversation today.

Thank you for reading!



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