

Who to call first?

There are so many things happening when you first lose a loved one it is very hard to keep it all straight. This card will help you determine first thing first.

If death occurs in a hospital or nursing home and you are the first to be aware of the death, alert the nursing staff. The doctor will pronounce the death. The care facility will need to know which funeral home to call and will perform that task for you.

If death occurs at home and is expected, call your doctor.

If you call 911, inform the operator that the death was expected. Unless the deceased is wearing a “comfort care only” bracelet or necklace, emergency medical personnel will most likely attempt resuscitation. If hospice is involved, the on-call nurse should be notified.

If the death was unattended and unexpected at home or elsewhere, call 911. The police and emergency medical personnel will determine the next appropriate steps.

Under certain circumstances, the coroner will be contacted.

If the death occurs out of state it is important to call Miller Funeral Home & on-site crematory first. To save you time and money, we will work through an agent in the area the death has occurred.

605-336-2640 or 800-568-4262



MILLER Funeral Home
& on-site crematory
Sioux Falls • Hartford