



# AIKENS FUNERAL HOME



A GUIDE TO PRE-PLANNING WITH CONFIDENCE

A THOUGHTFUL GUIDE FOR PLANNING AHEAD  
"WHERE EVERYTHING MATTERS"



"Where Everything Matters"

# A MESSAGE TO OUR FAMILIES

Planning ahead is one of the most thoughtful gifts you can give the people you love.

At Aikens Funeral Home, we understand that funeral and memorial planning is deeply personal. It involves important decisions; practical, financial, and emotional; that deserve time, care, and clarity.

Pre-planning allows you to make those decisions at your own pace, without pressure, and without leaving your loved ones to guess what you would have wanted.

Whether you are ready to document every detail or simply begin organizing your thoughts, this guide is designed to help you take the first step with confidence.

Our team is here to walk alongside you with dignity, professionalism, and care; every step of the way.





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# WHY PRE-PLAN

## WHY PRE-PLANNING MATTERS

Pre-planning gives you the opportunity to make thoughtful decisions in advance rather than leaving those choices to your loved ones during an emotional time.



The benefits of pre-planning include:

- Easing the emotional burden on your family
- Ensuring your wishes are clearly documented
- Giving yourself time to make informed decisions
- Reducing uncertainty and family stress
- Creating a meaningful service that reflects your life
- Allowing you to review options without pressure

Planning ahead brings peace of mind—not only to you, but to those you care about most.





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# IT'S ABOUT TAKING CONTROL

Many people believe their family already knows what they want.

However, during times of loss, emotions are high—and even the best intentions can lead to uncertainty or disagreement.

Pre-planning allows you to clearly communicate your wishes in writing, ensuring your voice is heard when it matters most.

You can thoughtfully document:

- ✔ Burial or cremation preferences
- ✔ Type of service
- ✔ Location and setting
- ✔ Music, readings, and speakers
- ✔ Cemetery or final resting place
- ✔ Personal touches and special requests

**Taking control today helps your family feel confident tomorrow.**





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# PEACE OF MIND FOR FAMILY



*Planning Ahead is a Valuable Gift to Your Family*

When a loss occurs, families are often faced with making many important decisions in a short period of time. Pre-planning removes that burden.

- Instead of guessing, your loved ones will have:
- Clear direction
- Confidence in honoring your wishes
- Fewer difficult decisions to make
- More time to focus on one another

**YOUR PREPARATION BECOMES THEIR PEACE OF MIND.**





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# UNDERSTANDING YOUR OPTIONS



There is no one “*right*” way to plan a funeral or memorial service. Every life is unique, and every service should reflect that.

## ***You may choose:***

- ✓ A traditional funeral service
- ✓ A memorial service
- ✓ A graveside service
- ✓ A celebration of life
- ✓ A private family gathering
- ✓ You may also include:
  - ✓ Visitation or viewing
  - ✓ Religious or spiritual elements
  - ✓ Military or fraternal honors
  - ✓ Music and personalized tributes
  - ✓ Reception or repast

At **Aikens Funeral Home**, we are here to guide you through every option with clarity and care.





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# WHY PRE-PLAN WITH AIKENS FUNERAL HOME



## PROFESSIONAL & WELCOMING

A dignified, comfortable environment from the moment you arrive.



## SPACIOUS CHAPEL OF HOPE

A large chapel designed to honor life with family and friends gathered together.



## PEACE CHAPEL

An intimate setting for personalized services with warmth and flexibility.



## PERSONAL GUIDANCE

A private arrangement room where our caring team helps you plan with confidence.

## Guaranteed Pricing

When pre-funded, your selected services and merchandise can be secured at today's prices.

## Your Money Is Protected

Funds are placed in a state-approved trust or insurance policy—not paid directly to the funeral home.

## Your Plan Travels With You

Your pre-arrangements are transferable to funeral homes nationwide.

## Compassionate Guidance

Our experienced team will help you make informed decisions in a comfortable, pressure-free environment.



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# COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT PRE-PLANNING

## **Do I have to pre-pay?**

No. You can document your wishes now and decide on payment options later.

## **What if I change my mind?**

Plans can be updated as your preferences change.

## **Is this difficult to do?**

Not at all. Many families find the process easier and more comforting than expected.

## **Why not just tell my family?**

Verbal wishes can be misunderstood. Written plans provide clarity and confidence.





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# WHAT TO GATHER BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT



To help guide your planning, you may want to gather:

- Personal Information
- Full legal name
- Date of birth
- Place of birth
- Marital status
- Family information
- Important Contacts
- Next of kin
- Clergy or officiant
- Attorney or advisor
- Service Preferences
- Burial or cremation
- Type of service
- Music or readings
- Personal touches

This information helps create a smooth and thoughtful planning experience.





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# PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Legal Name:

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Date of Birth:

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Marital Status:

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Spouse:

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Children:

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Occupation:

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# SERVICE PREFERENCES



Burial or Cremation:

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Type of Service:

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Location:

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Music / Readings:

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Officiant:

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Special Requests:

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# ADDITIONAL WISHES & NOTES

Cemetery Preference:

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Obituary Notes:

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Special Instructions:

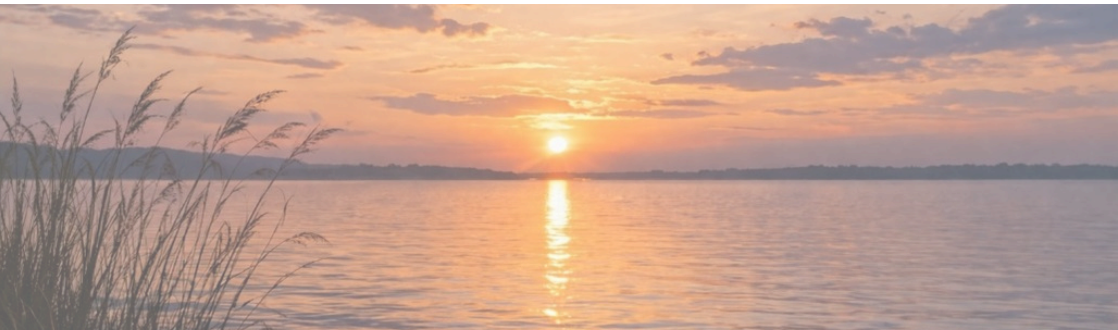
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Personal Message to Family (Optional):

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# NEXT STEPS

Once you've completed this guide, we invite you to meet with our team to review your wishes and finalize your plan.

We will ensure that every detail is documented and handled with care.

You don't have to navigate this alone; **we are here to help.**

**Aikens Funeral Home**

 **(813) 232-8725**

 **[www.AikensFuneralHome.com](http://www.AikensFuneralHome.com)**

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