



To the Families and Communities We Serve,

Assisting families and friends with their loss is our privilege and honor as funeral directors. Given the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to know that we are taking precautions to limit exposure to the coronavirus. We are still operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week making certain that those entrusted to our care and the families we serve are receiving uninterrupted service and attention, regardless of the cause of death.

In the last days and weeks, we have been in contact with the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health, State and Federal agencies, as well as the National and Illinois Funeral Directors Associations to ensure the information we receive is as current as possible.

**As health officials have indicated, one way to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus is through limiting public gatherings. As of March 16, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has limited gatherings to 10 people or less for the next 15 days. Therefore, to remain compliant, effective immediately we are limiting visitations and funeral services to members of the deceased family not to exceed 10 people.** We will post obituary information on our website and encourage friends to offer their condolences by reaching out to the family via phone, leaving a message on our website, or mailing a card. Additionally, we are encouraging all our families to hold a more public ceremony at a later date allowing the general public the opportunity to express their condolences.

As funeral directors, we normally encourage the gathering of family, friends, and community members when a death occurs; there is power in accepting and expressing sympathies to each other. However, following the guidelines set forth by the CDC is in the best interest of the public at large, and as a funeral home we will stringently follow these recommendations.

Our sympathies go out to anyone who has the additional burden of grief and loss during this time, and we are here to guide each family with their needs on an individual basis. We encourage bereaved families to work with us to create meaningful services that fall within the CDC's emergency order of limiting large public gatherings.

We are your neighbors and friends. Funeral directors live and work in your communities and we take the impact of this pandemic very seriously.

Please know that above all, we are committed to the families we serve. We remain focused on maintaining high standards and ethical practices as we serve the dead and bereaved. The health and well-being of our communities is our top priority as we move forward together in the coming weeks and months.