

## 2008 MORTUARY SURVEY OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

**Provided by Funeral Education Foundation**

**PO Box 60448, Palo Alto CA 94306**

**Web: ~~www.FuneralConsumerInfo.org~~**

**Phone/fax: (650)321-2109**

[www.fcapeninsula.org](http://www.fcapeninsula.org)

MORTUARIES & OWNERS (those with lower prices for FCA members have asterisks)	Basic Service/ Overhead Fee	Lowest Cost Packaged Funeral Without Casket	Lowest Cost 18 ga. Metal Casket	Lowest Cost 20 ga. Metal Casket	Lowest Cost Cloth- Covered Composite Wood Casket	Plain Pine Box	Direct Burial Including Graveside Service, No Embalming, Casket Extra	Direct Burial Without Graveside Service, Casket Extra	Cremation including Cardboard Container & Crematory Fee	Embalming
Bay Area Cremation & Burial Services* Redwood City, <i>Clinton Love</i>	\$450	-	\$2,179	\$1,695	\$895	-	\$2,441	\$1,746	\$1,576	\$695
Byrgan and Co., Burlingame <i>Mimosa Capital Partners</i>	\$1,022	-	-	\$1,100	\$775	-	\$1,943	\$1,033	\$1,285	\$545
Chapel by the Sea FH, Pacifica, <i>William &amp; Steve Welch</i>	\$995	\$2,495	\$2,595	\$1,595	\$895	\$1,795	\$1,295	\$995	\$1,380	\$425
Chapel of the Highlands Millbrae, <i>Paul Larson</i>	\$1,395	\$2,790	\$2,495	\$1,650	\$895	-	\$2,415	\$1,890	\$1,670	\$395
Colma Funeral Services Colma & Belmont, <i>Quatuor Corp.</i>	\$585	-	\$2,460	\$1,020	\$550	-	\$1,650	\$1,150	\$1,230	N/A
2-Crippen & Flynn Carlmont Chapel, Belmont and Woodside Chapel, Redwood City, <i>E. J. Crippen, Flynn &amp; Partners</i>	\$1,360	-	\$2,595	\$1,495	\$795	-	\$1,745	\$1,450	\$1,615	\$365
3-Crosby N Gray & Co.* Burlingame, Sneider & Sullivan FH,* San Mateo, Miller Dutra FH,* HM Bay, <i>John Crosby</i>	\$2,050	\$4,295	\$3,595	\$1,785	\$995	\$2,995	\$2,595	\$2,050	\$2,265	\$495
Cypress Lawn Memorial Park, Colma <i>Cypress Lawn</i>	\$1,695	\$3,395 if buy casket at C.L.	\$2,895	\$1,995	-	\$895	\$1,995	\$1,695	\$1,990	\$495
Duggan's Serra Mortuary, Daly City <i>E. J. Duggan &amp; Family</i>	\$1,700	\$2,690 if buy casket at DSM	\$2,920	\$1,790	\$990	-	\$1,740	\$1,190	\$1,535	\$450
Garden Chapel Inc., S. San Francisco <i>Alfred E. Banfield &amp; Partners</i>	\$975	\$1,795	\$3,225	\$1,595	\$995	\$695	\$1,320	\$1,125	\$1,445	\$475
Jones Mortuary E. Palo Alto, <i>Charles Jones</i>	\$875	-	\$1,795	\$1,045	\$650	-	\$1,795	\$1,095	\$1,395	\$575
Lifemark Center Rt. 92, San Mateo <i>Lifemark Group</i>	\$2,450	\$4,934	\$2,395	\$895	\$695	-	\$3,685	\$2,095	\$2,015	\$450
Nauman Lincoln Roos FH So. San Francisco <i>Wm. &amp; Steve Welch</i>	\$995	\$2,495	\$2,595	\$1,595	\$895	\$1,795	\$1,295	\$995	\$1,380	\$425
Neptune Society of No. Calif., Belmont <i>Stewart Enterprises</i>	\$570	-	-	-	\$598	-	\$2,375	\$1,600	\$1,760	\$645
Redwood Chapel Redwood City <i>Service Corporation Int'l</i>	\$2,295	\$5,495	\$1,295	\$795	\$795	\$595	\$4,555	\$2,095	\$2,390	\$995
Sinai Memorial Chapel Redwood City <i>Chevra Kadisna; non-profit corp.</i>	\$1,975	-	-	\$575	\$455	\$925	\$2,865	\$1,865	\$2,000	\$495
Spangler Mortuary Menlo Park <i>James Spangler</i>	\$965	-	\$1,950	-	\$750	-	\$2,390	\$1,745	\$1,805	\$495
Trident Society, San Mateo <i>Neptune Management Corp.</i>	\$550	-	-	-;	-	-	-	-	\$1,299	-

# 2008 MORTUARY SURVEY OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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MORTUARIES & OWNERS (those with lower prices for FCA members have asterisks)	Basic Service/ Overhead Fee	Lowest Cost Packaged Funeral Without Casket	Lowest Cost 18 ga. Metal Casket	Lowest Cost 20 ga. Metal Casket	Cloth Covered Composite Wood Casket	Plain Pine Box	Direct Burial Including Graveside Service, Casket Extra	Direct Burial Without Graveside Service, Casket Extra	Direct Cremation incl. Crematory Fee	Embalming
Alameda Family Saratoga - Cupertino FH* Saratoga <i>Zoe Alameda-Farotte</i>	\$1,695	-	\$2,754	\$1,585	\$569	\$2,033	\$1,865	\$2,645	\$1,895	\$675
Bay Area – A Mortuary Support Services Group, Inc <i>John Sparrer</i>	\$945	\$2,795	\$1,980	\$1,100	\$381	\$495	\$2,595, embalming incl.	\$1,995	\$895	\$395
Bay Area Cremation & Burial Services* San Jose <i>Clinton Love</i>	\$450	-	\$2,179	\$1,695	\$895	-	\$2,441	\$1,746	\$1,576	\$695
Byrgan and Co. Los Gatos <i>Mimosa Capital Partners</i>	\$1,022	-	-	\$1,100	\$775	-	\$1,943	\$1,033	\$1,285	\$545
California Cremation Society, San Jose <i>Buck Kemphausen</i>	\$395	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$895	-
Chapel of Flowers FH, San Jose <i>Sue Salmon</i>	\$1,395	-	\$1,495	\$1,285	\$400	-	\$1,746	\$1,313	\$1077.95	\$450
Cunningham's Burial & Cremation* Santa Clara <i>Drew McCarter</i>	\$460	-	\$1295	\$995	\$495	-	\$1,195	\$895	\$795	\$350
Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary Mountain View – <i>Matthew &amp; Sherri Cusimano</i>	\$1,095	-	\$2,198	\$1,517	\$576	-	\$2,168	\$1,943	\$1,933	\$525
3-Darling Fischer/Chapel of the Hills, Los Gatos; Memorial Chapel, Campbell; Garden Chapel, San Jose <i>Carriage Corp</i>	\$2,750	-	\$3,695	\$1,495	\$1,095	-	\$2,690	\$1,995	\$2,120	\$785
Habing Family FH Gilroy, <i>Jim &amp; Steve Habing</i>	\$1,865	\$4,348	\$2,150	\$1,565	\$844	\$1,150	\$3,760	\$2,369	\$2,210	\$490
Johnson FH, Morgan Hill <i>Service Corp. Int'l</i>	\$2,995	-	\$1,159	\$995	\$595	\$695	\$3,090	\$2,395	\$2,695	\$995
Lima & Campagna FH, Sunnyvale <i>Partnership of Local Families</i>	\$2,250	-	\$2,395	\$1,095	\$395	-	\$2,675	\$1,980	\$1,900	\$650
3-Lima Family Erickson Mem. Chapel, San Jose; Santa Clara Mortuary; Milpitas-Fremont Mortuary <i>Service Corp. Int'l</i>	\$2,995	\$6,390	\$1,395	\$795	\$595	\$595	\$5,400	\$2,395	\$2,590	\$995
Lima Campagna Alameda Mission Chapel of San Jose <i>Partnership of Local Families</i>	\$1,940	-	\$2,395	\$1,095	\$395	-	\$2,435	\$1,840	\$1,595	\$650
2-Mission Memorial at Campbell & San Jose Foothills, <i>Mission Funeral Group Inc.</i>	\$1295	\$3,495	\$1,995	\$995	\$395	\$995	\$1,995	\$1,595	\$1,095	\$425
Neptune Society of Central Calif., San Jose <i>Buck Kemphausen</i>	\$600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,560	-
Oak Hill FH & Mem. Park San Jose <i>Service Corp. Int'l</i>	\$3,245	\$9,495 incl. \$1,595 casket	\$1,395	\$795	\$595	\$695	\$3,090	\$2,395	\$2,695	\$995

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Roller Hapgood & Tinney, Palo Alto <i>Local Partnership</i>	\$995	-	\$3,295	\$1,595	\$695	-			\$2,046	\$525
San Jose Funeral Services*, San Jose <i>Ronald W. Brown</i>	\$1,000	-	\$1,895	\$895	\$450	\$295	\$1,845	\$1,545	\$1,000	\$500
Spangler Mortuary Los Altos <i>James Spangler</i>	\$965	-	\$1,950	-	\$750	-	\$2,390	\$1,745	\$1,805	\$495
Spangler Mortuary Mountain View <i>James Spangler</i>	\$795	-	\$1,950	-	\$725	-	\$1,675	\$1,030	\$1,805	\$495
Spangler Mortuary Sunnyvale Wyant & Smith Crematory <i>James Spangler</i>	\$995	-	\$2,850	\$1,895	\$785	\$1,495	\$2,125	\$1,850	\$1,885	\$495
Trident Society, San Jose <i>Neptune Mgt. Corp.</i>	\$550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$1,299	
Willow Glen Funeral Chapel San Jose <i>Service Corp. Int'l</i>	\$2,295	\$8,395 incl. \$2,395 casket	\$1,295	\$795	\$595	\$1,295	\$2,690	\$2,095	\$2,440	\$995
AVERAGE OVER ALL 50 MORTUARIES	\$1,523	\$4,137	\$2,249	\$1,299	\$715	\$1,255	\$2,510	\$1,721	\$1,755	\$597
AVERAGE OF EACH COUNTY	(SM= \$1,350; SC= \$1,647)	SM= \$3,654 SC= \$4,758	SM= \$2,634; SC= \$2,156	SM= \$1,427; SC= \$1,203	SM= \$811; SC= \$645	SM= \$1,743 SC= \$918	SM= \$2,252 SC= \$2,725	SM= \$1,568; SC= \$1,843	SM=\$1,723; SC=\$1780	SM= \$514 SC= \$658
MEDIAN	\$1,328	\$4,295	\$2,297	\$1,390	\$695	\$925	\$2,390	\$1,840	\$1,783	495
LOWEST	\$395	\$1,785	\$1,159	\$575	\$381	\$295	\$1,195	\$895	\$795	\$350
HIGHEST	\$3,245	\$6,390	\$3,695	\$1,995	\$1,095	\$2,995	\$5,400	\$2,645	\$2,695	\$995

This survey was taken Oct.-Dec. 2008 by a combination of phone calls and personal visits by Funeral Education Foundation Board members. The last survey was made in Oct.-Dec. 2006. There were 50 mortuaries to survey in 2008, 52 in 2006. Now we have 4 new funeral homes (Lifemark Center, Cypress Lawn, Bay Area Mortuary Support, and All County Cremation), 6 changed owners, and 4 are no longer in business (Menlo Colonial, Skylawn San Bruno, National Cremation, and White Oak Chapel).

#### CONCLUSIONS:

- There are huge price differences between mortuaries; families can save by comparing costs at several funeral homes.
- Only 11 mortuaries offered a packaged traditional funeral plan without casket; a couple offered a discount on a package if the family buys the casket from that mortuary (illegal per the federal Funeral Rule) and two more offer a package WITH a certain casket included.
- Average prices in all categories increased: Cremation will cost \$155 more (average \$1,755), direct burial from \$200 to \$500 more (\$2,512 with a graveside service, \$1,745 without the service). Add on the cost of casket and the cemetery charges.
- San Mateo County mortuaries had lower average costs for basic fee, full funeral, direct burials, cremations, and embalming. Santa Clara County had better prices on the four types of caskets we priced. Hint: you can buy a casket at one business and have it delivered to the mortuary doing the services. The receiving funeral home is forbidden to charge a handling fee.

#### EXTRA EXPENSES TO EXPECT:

- Death certificates this year=\$12 each
- Calif. state filing fee=\$11 payable to cemetery or crematory
- Night or weekend body removal charge
- Cemetery plot, opening & closing, grave liner, marker

- Newspaper obituaries=average \$400

- Urn, niche, or scattering of ashes

