

**A home funeral is a family or community-centered response to death and after-death care.**

**Families and communities may play a key role in:**

- Planning and carrying out after-death rituals or ceremonies (such as laying out the deceased and home visitation of the body)
- Preparing the body for burial or cremation
- Filing of death-related paperwork such as the death certificate
- Transporting the deceased to the place of burial or cremation
- Facilitating the final disposition such as digging the grave in natural burial

Home funerals may occur within the family home or not. Some nursing homes, for example, may allow the family to care for the deceased after death.

The emphasis is on minimal, non-invasive, and environmentally-friendly care of the body. ♦ Support and assistance to carry out after-death care may come from home funeral educators or guides, but their goal is to facilitate the maximal involvement of the family and its social network.

**SOURCE (Viewed Oct 31, 2010):** [National Home Funeral Alliance](http://homefuneralalliance.org/)

**RELATED LINKS**

\* [Sacred Crossings:](http://www.youtube.com/user/sacredcrossings#p/a/u/0/K2jK_WgKV-w) [Emotionally powerful. ♦ Captures the essence of a Home Funeral. \(VIDEO: 4 min 42 sec\)](http://www.youtube.com/user/sacredcrossings#p/a/u/0/K2jK_WgKV-w)

\* [How to Do a Home Funeral in Texas](http://texashomefunerals.com/)