

Questions asked ... *about Direct Cremation*

The simple funeral option with no service and no family
attending the Crematorium



THE SEARSON FAMILY
FUNERAL SERVICE

*"We don't just arrange funerals, we create
meaningful days"*

www.thesearsonfamily.co.uk

0800 022 3309

Questions asked ...

about Direct Cremation



WHAT IS A DIRECT CREMATION?

A Direct Cremation, often referred to as an 'Unattended Funeral', entails the transportation of the coffin directly from the Funeral Home to the Crematorium. There is no service, no family presence, and no music played, only the Funeral Director and the coffin. Upon arrival, the coffin is brought into the Service Hall, positioned on the Catafalque, and the curtains are drawn. It's a simple option, dignified, discreet and with no formalities.

Following the cremation, you will have the choice to either have the cremated remains scattered at the crematorium or returned to you. This represents the most straightforward type of funeral we provide and is typically the most economical option.

CAN WE STILL SEE THE COFFIN ARRIVE AT THE CREMATORIUM?

A Direct Cremation, or Unattended Funeral, is tailored to meet the criteria set by the relevant Crematorium. Due to their location, we use the Oaks Crematorium at Havant. When making arrangements, you will be required to sign an Application Form that clearly states that no mourners or public attendance are permitted on site.

CAN WE USE ANOTHER CREMATORIUM?

YES ... Our Direct Cremation charge includes the use of the Oaks Crematorium in Havant. However, should you prefer an alternative location, just let us know. There may be an additional charge for the use of an alternative Crematorium, but we will advise you of this at the time of enquiry.

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WHAT IF WE DON'T WANT A DIRECT CREMATION?

Direct Cremation is often the funeral option chosen by the deceased and not the family. However, if a Direct Cremation was chosen but doesn't meet your needs or personal wishes, you are free to make alternative decisions.

When compromise is needed, families typically opt for a simple attended service. This is the next step beyond an unattended funeral and will hopefully meet the family's wishes whilst still respecting the wishes of the deceased.

CAN I HAVE AN URN OR CASKET?

YES ... Once the Cremated Remains have been released into our care, we will call you to let you know we have them. You can then decide how you would like to have them kept. The Crematorium provided the Cremated Remains in a simple cardboard box, and this may meet your needs. Ideal and cost-effective if you intend to scatter the Cremated Remains.

However, if you want to keep them at home or arrange a burial at a later date, we offer a range of Casket and Urn options. Alternatively, you can provide your own container, and we will transfer the Cremated Remains for you.

Another option is to have the Cremated Remains scattered at another Crematorium. Just let us know when making arrangements, although every Crematorium will make a charge for accepting Cremated Remains from another Crematorium.

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WHEN DO WE GET THE ASHES BACK?

Typically, a Direct Cremation is carried out early in the morning, though the cremation process may not occur at that time or even on the same day. The Oaks Crematorium states that it will complete the cremation within 72 hours of receiving the coffin, which currently meets the legal maximum time requirement. Once the Cremated Remains are back in our care, we will call you to let you know.

CAN WE STILL VISIT THE CHAPEL OF REST?

YES ... An 'Unattended Funeral' doesn't mean that you can't request additional service options, and visiting the Chapel of Rest is often a need for many families. Our Direct Cremation charge doesn't include viewing, but it can be provided at an additional cost.

Should you opt for viewing, you can give us the clothing you would like to use for the Direct Cremation. The procedures we carry out are no different from those for a traditional service.

CAN WE HAVE A MEMORIAL SERVICE LATER?

YES ... Many families opt for a Direct Cremation and, at a later date, gather family and friends for a Memorial Service. This can be done anywhere you feel appropriate, a Church, a local Hall, a Club, or even down the local Pub.

Memorial Services can be very similar in style and content to a traditional funeral, and even though the coffin will not be present, the Cremated Remains can be. The style and content of a Memorial Service is your choice, and we are here to help organise and facilitate should you wish.