

Close relatives can select funeral flowers that honor the person who died and suit the service, from a casket arrangement to a small vase of favorite flowers. No specific flower or color is required, so follow the family's preferences and check any instructions from the funeral home or place of worship.

Keep the person and setting in mind

Recall the flowers the person liked, the colors they often wore, or the plants they cared for at home. A familiar garden bloom may feel more personal than a formal display. For a quiet, traditional style, the family may prefer white flowers.

Plan for the place where the arrangement will go. A large display needs enough room beside the casket or at the front of the room. A smaller one may fit on a table, near the entrance, or beside a photograph. Before choosing a size, ask the funeral director what space is available.

Check with relatives or the person leading the service if it follows a religious or cultural custom. Practices vary, and some services have specific preferences about flowers.

Select a display that suits the occasion

Immediate family members often choose the main floral tribute, but they do not have to order any particular type. Consider these common options and confirm what will work at the venue:

- **Casket arrangement:** A large floral display set on the casket. Check the casket's size and find out whether it will be open before placing an order.

- **Standing display:** Flowers arranged upright near the front of the service. Ask the venue if it has room for a stand.
- **Wreath:** A circular design that can rest on a stand or be placed close to a memorial photograph.
- **Vase display:** A practical choice for a table or a smaller gathering. The flowers can be taken home after the service.
- **Individual stems:** Family members can place single flowers if the service allows enough time and space.

Choose suitable flowers and colors

Roses, lilies, carnations, and chrysanthemums are frequently used for funerals. Roses are available in many colors, carnations tend to keep their shape, and chrysanthemums come in several forms. Lilies can have a strong scent. If anyone attending is sensitive to fragrance, ask about flowers with a milder scent.

White and cream flowers can give an arrangement a restrained appearance. Pink, yellow, blue, or a mix of brighter colors can also be suitable, particularly if they bring the person to mind. Ask a florist which flowers will be available on the service date and which types will work for the display.

Settle the arrangements in advance

One relative can manage the main order and check the choice with other family members before confirming it. Agree with the funeral home or venue on where and when the flowers should be delivered. For an accompanying card, a brief personal message or the names of the people sending the arrangement are sufficient.

Ask what can be done with the flowers after the service. Relatives may take smaller displays home, divide the stems among themselves, or leave flowers at a burial site if that is allowed. If the family has asked people to make donations instead of sending flowers, respect that preference.

Choose flowers that feel appropriate to the family while leaving the service itself at the center of attention.

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