

Update to Covid -19 Guidelines -3/23/20

By Executive order, Gov. Cuomo has temporarily banned all non-essential gatherings of any size for any reason, effective as of 8:00pm on Sunday, March 23. However, the Governor's office has made some exceptions to the executive order that will impact funeral services provided by J.F. Goode Funeral Home

The Governor's Office will allow for immediate* family members to have a private visitation &/or viewing at funeral homes under the following conditions:

- Visitations & Services are to be limited to the *smallest* possible number of immediate family members
- Attendees may not exceed 10 individuals (as per Federal guidelines)
- Families must maintain established 'Social Distancing' protocols at all times

Cemetery and crematory restrictions have been modified as follows:

- There will be no graveside services, in that chapels, chairs and tents will not be provided. Families observing the interment of their loved ones must wait in their vehicles until cemetery staff have put the coffin in place and left the final resting place area. Families will only be allowed to have a brief prayer and then return to their vehicles and leave the cemetery premises immediately. No one will not be allowed to linger at the gravesite or any other place on the cemetery grounds.
- Calverton National Cemetery will not allow any funeral processions other than the hearse carrying the deceased and the funeral director.
- There will be no chapel services permitted at the crematorium.

We at J.F. Goode Funeral Home understand that these guidelines create an unfortunate hardship for families during this difficult period, however, we are bound by law to enforce them in order to continue to keep our staff and your loved ones safe. We ask for your understanding and cooperation as we manage your loved ones going home services responsibly.

Thank you

*New York State laws determine the scope of what constitutes 'immediate' family as the spouse, child, parent and sibling of the deceased.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

J.F. Goode Funeral Home Operating Guidelines During the Covid-19 Pandemic - March 17, 2020

This is to reassure our families that we are taking the Covid-19 Pandemic seriously and are making every effort to continue to provide the most professional services that you have come to rely on an expect from J.F. Goode Funeral Home. Given the dire circumstances that we are all faced with it is important to note that we will be operating under the rules that have been developed by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Department of Health (DOH) as follows:

- Federal Guidelines have recommended that no more than 10 persons assemble at one time. New York State recommends no more than 50 persons gather at one time, however this may shift to Federal guidelines at any time. As such, attendance at wakes and funeral services will be limited to 10 individuals at one time. Given this restriction we will work with families to determine the best way to memorialize your loved one and keep you and your family and friends safe.
- Currently, most churches and synagogues are still open to the public, however, given the new guidelines regarding the assembly of people this may change at any time. If you are desirous of having Funeral Services in your family's place of worship, we ask that you confer with your clergy.
- Cemeteries, Mausoleums and Crematorium Chapels are all following federal guidelines of no more than 10 individuals at one time at their facilities.
- To protect our workers, their families and other families with whom we come in contact, we have been instructed to wear protective garments when we are asked to pick up and transport decedents that have succumbed to the Covid-19 virus. Since this may be difficult to know for certain when death occurs at home, we will have to take these measures for all home removals. We will also ask that any other members in the household that are showing symptoms, such as, cough, fever or upset stomachs to relocate to a separate area in the home away from our staff.
- In keeping with CDC guidelines that individuals keep a six-foot distance from one another, we ask that no more than two persons arrive at our business office to make funeral and pre-arrangements. Any additional family members will be asked to wait in the chapel area. We will also limit personal contact with our families to elbow bumps or a respectful nod, whichever you prefer.
- Be assured that we have always and will continue to be diligent about hand-washing and the use of hand sanitizers. Our facility will continue to be cleaned thoroughly with antiseptic cleaners and all public surfaces sanitized before and after every service.

We will continue to monitor CDC and New York DOH authorities and update this information throughout this crisis. For more information or questions please refer to the CDC and NYDOH websites at <http://www.cdc.gov> and <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

We know that the demise of your loved one is already a very stressful time for you and your family and that these guidelines present additional challenges that you would like not to have to think about. Just know that we are thinking about it for you and will take every precaution to ensure that we all remain safe.