

My Funeral, *My* Way

Get peace of mind by planning ahead

P.A. Brooks

& SON

INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICES



Caring for the community for over 100 years

PLANNING AHEAD

We all plan for every major event—career, marriage family, pensions and retirement to name but a few.

Many of us fail to plan for the end of our life and leave so much to either chance or our relatives who may not know our wishes. With many of the population not having made a Will it may be that we are afraid to plan for the inevitable event for fear that we may somehow speed its arrival.

Planning for the end of our life allows us to record our wishes and choices with clarity, at a time when we are sure of what we want and while we are still able to do so.

- Have you considered financial planning for your future care and to protect your assets?
- If you have to go into a care home or are incapable of making financial decisions, who should deal with your affairs?
- Have you appointed a lasting power of attorney and executor?
- Do you have specific wishes for your funeral? For example a burial or cremation.
- Would you like a service in Church or at a local crematorium?
- Do you want your ashes scattered somewhere special to you?

This booklet will help you consider some important aspects of end of life planning and perhaps open up an opportunity to have that conversation with your family.

Andrew and Julie Brooks

R. A. Brooks & Son

MY PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Date of birth: _____

MY NEXT OF KIN OR REPRESENTATIVE

(Most likely to be dealing with my funeral arrangements)

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Relationship to me: _____

GP DETAILS

Name: _____

Surgery Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

MY WILL

If you have a Will, make a note here of where it is kept:

My executors

(the people you have requested to manage your estate after your death) are:

If you haven't already made a Will you may wish to consider it for some of the following reasons:

- Unmarried partners may not receive anything from your estate, unless you have made a Will in their favour.
- If your estate is divided according to the intestacy rules, your spouse or civil partner may not receive as much as you would have intended.
- If you die without leaving a Will and have no spouse or children, your parents or siblings may inherit your estate, even if your preference would be for it to go elsewhere.
- Not having a Will could lead to family disputes.

MY FUNERAL PLAN

I already have a pre-paid funeral plan held by
(*name of funeral director or plan provider*):

My funeral plan reference number is:

If you haven't decided to take out a pre-paid funeral plan you may wish to consider it for some of the following reasons:

- Funeral costs may rise higher than the interest paid on your savings.
- Your family may have to pay the cost of your funeral.
- Planning gives you peace of mind your wishes will be met and that secure payment has been made.
- Savings you have put aside to cover funeral costs may need to be used to pay for your care.

We have chosen to use Golden Charter Prepaid Funeral plans who are a Funeral Planning Authority registered provider and work with family run independent funeral directors like us. If you would like more information please contact us to discuss your requirements.



*If you don't feel arranging a funeral plan is right for you,
you can record your wishes in this booklet.*

CEREMONY TYPES

- Burial
- Cremation
- Non-religious, religious or humanist
- Traditional or eco-friendly funeral

VENUE FOR THE SERVICE

Would you like the service to take place in a place of worship before the cremation or burial?

Would you prefer a particular Vicar or celebrant?

BURIALS & CREMATED REMAINS

I would like to be buried at:

New or existing grave:

Location/plot number: _____

I would like my ashes to be buried or scattered at:

FUNERAL CORTEGE

What type of hearse – e.g. traditional/horse drawn?

Would you like a limousine/s to follow the hearse?

MUSIC, POETRY AND READINGS

Which songs or music would you like played?

Are there any poems or readings you would like included?

FLOWERS AND DONATIONS

Would you like flowers? If so, do you have a preference of the type of flowers?

Would you like donations to charity in lieu of flowers? If so, which charity?

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Do you have any special requests that would make your funeral more personal and unique to you?

For example, you may wish people to wear a particular colour or follow a special route. Use this section to note your special requests:

TELL YOUR LOVED ONE YOUR WISHES

Now that you have completed this booklet it is important that your loved ones know what your wishes are.

Either copy this booklet and give it to somebody in your family, to a trusted friend, or tell them where this booklet is kept.

It's a good idea to keep this in the same place as a copy of your Will, Pension details, insurance policies and any other important paper-work and documents. Please note here any other details your family may wish to know that are not covered elsewhere in this booklet.

I understand the information I have completed in this booklet, although not legally binding, sets out my personal wishes in the event of my death.

ORGAN DONATION

Transplants depend entirely on the generosity of donors and their families who are willing to make this life-saving or life-enhancing gift to others.

One donor can save the life of several people, restore the sight of others and improve the lives of many more.

Organ donation in England moved to an 'opt out' system on 20th May 2020. You may also hear it referred to as 'Max and Keira's Law'. This means that all adults in England will be considered to have agreed to be an organ donor when they die unless they have recorded a decision not to donate or are in one of the excluded groups. Your family will still be approached and your faith, beliefs and culture will continue to be respected. You still have a choice about whether or not you wish to become a donor.



If you would like to speak to somebody about your choices, please call the dedicated NHS Organ donation line: **0300 303 2094**

DO YOU HAVE A PACEMAKER FITTED?

Pacemakers must be removed before a cremation can take place.

However, rather than simply destroying them, many can be reused in third world countries. Pace4Life is a charity which refurbishes and recycles pacemakers.

Would you consider donating your pacemaker after your death?

- I would be willing to donate my pacemaker
- I would not be willing to donate my pacemaker



You can find out more information on their website:
www.pace4life.org.uk

WHAT NEXT?

Even if you don't feel able to talk about your wishes with your friends or family, it's important to let someone know that you have filled out this booklet so that they will be able to refer to it when the time comes. Put it somewhere safe and tell someone close to you where it is or give it to them to look after for you. You may also want to give details of where this booklet is to your executor or solicitor.

Alternatively you may wish to consider turning your wishes into a Pre-Paid Funeral Plan. If you feel you would like some help or advice with this, our staff are here to assist you and guide you to a final decision.

CONTACTING US

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For your reassurance we are members of the National Association of Funeral Directors, Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors, the Association of Green Funeral Directors and Member of the British Institute of Embalmers.

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