Are You Ready to Die?
A Home Funeral Checklist

We have created this basic checklist to help you figure out if you have asked the right questions and gathered the necessary information needed to plan for your own funeral in the state of California.

☐ I have filled out an **Advance Directive**, This means that I know who has **legal** control over my funeral.

Their name is: __________________________________________________________

☐ My legal next of kin is:______________________________________________

☐ I have gathered all legal documents: will, birth certificate, title to car, deeds to property, bank account info, marriage certificate, credit cards, health insurance, life insurance, VA papers, & outstanding bills.

They are located: ______________________________________________________

☐ I have had an open and honest discussion about what I wish for my disposition. I have read about the pros and cons of burial and cremation.

I have chosen to be: ____________________________________________________

☐ I have researched funeral homes along with their prices and philosophies.

I have chosen to work with:______________________________________________

I **DO/DO NOT** have a preneed with the above funeral home. The paperwork is located:______________________________________________

☐ I would like to spend _________ on my funeral. At this time I have _________ set aside in a savings account for this. If I do not have money set aside currently I will put away _________ each month to start saving.

☐ I have researched and read up on embalming. I understand what it is and I **DO/DO NOT** choose this.

☐ I have the name of my doctor and/or hospice workers on hand.

Name:_________________________________________________________________

Phone number:_________________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________
I DO/DO NOT want to be dressed by my family or friends in my home. If I have chosen this option, then I have discussed with the nursing home, or off-site hospice facility, about releasing my body to my family members rather than a funeral home.

I have had an open conversation about what I would like for my funeral. We have discussed whether we would like a small gathering, a viewing with a ceremony, a memorial service, etc. I know there are many ways to celebrate my life and I have notified the pertinent people in my life of my wishes.

I have stored all passwords to my social media accounts in a folder on my computer that is easily accessible, or have shared them with a person I trust. I have had a discussion about what I wish to happen to said accounts after I die.

I have discussed my end-of-life wishes with my loved ones and they are aware of the level of medical intervention I want should the need to resuscitate or prolong my life occurs.

I have researched with my family and understand who to notify when my death occurs: coroner, police, funeral home, legal next of kin. I understand when calling the police is, and is not necessary.

I have discussed with my family what I would like to be buried in, such as specific clothing and jewelry/mementos. I would like:________________________________________

I have/have not written my obituary. If I have not, then I have talked to a specific person I hope will be in charge of this.

I know and understand that it is both natural and normal to feel overwhelmed in planning for my own funeral.

After finishing this checklist I will file it away with the rest of my legal documents so that I may aid my friends and family in the event of my untimely death. I know that what I do now helps the ones I love during their time of grief.