



**People's Memorial**  
A s s o c i a t i o n  
Funeral Advocacy & Education since 1939

## Designated Agent for Funeral Arrangements

Washington State

I, \_\_\_\_\_ designate the following agent(s) to act on my behalf for the sole purpose of directing my funeral and cemetery arrangements.

I  have  have not (*initial one*) executed a written Disposition Authorization.

I  have  have not (*initial one*) filed or prepaid my final arrangements with a funeral home.

If I have not executed a written disposition authorization, nor filed or prepaid my arrangements with a licensed funeral establishment or cemetery authority, then I authorize my designated agent to select appropriate funeral arrangements for me including the type, place, and method of the final disposition. Neither my designated agent nor my survivors may substantially alter any pre-arrangements I have made. If I have not provided sufficient funds to cover my pre-arrangements, the designated agent is responsible for the balance of my funeral and cemetery costs. I direct that my estate promptly reimburse my designated agent for any personal funds advanced to pay for my funeral arrangements. My designated agent has complete authority to act on my behalf and direct any and all details related to my funeral arrangements that I have not already pre-arranged or authorized, including but not limited to obituary, funeral, or memorial service, cemetery, monument, memorialization, reception, or other related matters.

I name the following person to be my designated agent for funeral arrangements:

**Primary Agent's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Agent's Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Primary Agent's Phone(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

If my Primary Agent is for any reason unable or unwilling to serve in this capacity or does not make contact with the funeral home within 5 business days of my death, I then name the following person to be my designated agent for funeral arrangements:

**Alternate Agent's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternate Agent's Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate Agent's Phone(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

I direct that all of my family and survivors shall honor this authorization. I direct that any funeral home, cemetery, cremation authority, memorial society, or designated agent shall be held harmless for arranging or handling the disposition of my remains, if done in reliance upon this authorization.

**Declarant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Legal Name of Declarant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDER WASHINGTON LAW, TO BE VALID, THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF A WITNESS**

**Witness Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Legal Name of Witness:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Who is my next-of-kin?

## ACCORDING TO WASHINGTON STATE LAW

After-death arrangements can only be handled with a funeral establishment and/or the Department of Health by the following individuals, listed in legal order of priority. The legal next of kin has/have sole decision-making authority in the event the decedent did not document their wishes in writing themselves.

- 1 Designated Agent**  
This is a person you specifically empower to make your deathcare decisions. They can be any adult over age of 18 you trust. To designate this person, make sure you complete, sign and date the form on the opposite side in front of an impartial witness.
- 2 Surviving Spouse**  
You must be legally married to this person for the state to consider them your spouse. Or a state-registered domestic partner.
- 3 Majority of Adult Children**  
This includes your biological or legally adopted children over the age of 18. Note, a consensus must be reached by the majority of adult children. In the event of two children, both must agree.
- 4 Surviving Parents**  
Both of your living biological or legally adoptive parents must agree upon decisions regarding your care.
- 5 Majority of Adult Siblings**  
This includes your biological or legally adopted siblings over the age of 18. Note, a consensus must be reached by the majority of adult siblings. In the event of two siblings, both must agree.
- 6 Court-Appointed Guardian**  
If there is a court-appointed guardian at time of death.
- 7 Most Responsible Party**  
If a good faith effort has been made to determine no such living individuals above exist for the decedent, then the right may go to the most responsible party available over age 18.

