



**FUNERAL CONSUMERS ALLIANCE OF TIDEWATER**  
 PO Box 4621 Virginia Beach, VA 23454 757-428-5134  
[smartfunerals@gmail.com](mailto:smartfunerals@gmail.com)  
[WWW.SMARTFUNERALSVA.COM](http://WWW.SMARTFUNERALSVA.COM) (local) [WWW.FUNERALS.ORG](http://WWW.FUNERALS.ORG) (national)

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Tidewater. We are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization serving Hampton Roads residents and are dedicated to helping people plan dignified, meaningful and affordable funeral arrangements. We achieve this goal through consumer-education outreach, including group presentations, printed materials, newspaper articles, local price surveys and membership benefits.

Founded in 1976, FCAT is part of the national Funeral Consumers Alliance ([www.funerals.org](http://www.funerals.org)) headquartered in Burlington, VT. We are one of over 100 chapters across the country and have no financial ties to the funeral industry. Our membership is open to all.

Simply put, we are regular folks who know that funerals don't have to bury a family in debt.

**How you benefit...**

<b>OBJECTIVITY</b> You get advice from knowledgeable volunteers, who are not trying to sell you funeral services.	<b>CARING</b> You help your family avoid the stress of making difficult decisions during a time of grief.
<b>DIGNITY</b> You learn about dignified alternatives to excessive funeral displays.	<b>SECURITY</b> You enjoy the convenience of pre-planning without the risks of pre-payment.
<b>CONFIDENCE</b> You are able to shop for services with full knowledge of your consumer rights.	<b>KNOWLEDGE</b> You become an educated consumer, and avoid unnecessary expenses.

When you join, you get a Funeral Planner Packet with information on cremation, burial choices, cemetery options, legal/consumer rights, FCAT planning forms, price survey of area funeral services, informative pamphlets, and the book *Dealing Creatively With Death*. You will also be notified of our Annual Meeting in the Spring.

*Sincerely,*

**Robert O. Clapp, Membership Secretary**

**BECOME A MEMBER**

Individual ----- \$20                       Two people at the same address ----- \$30                       Transfer fee ----- \$5

Enclosed is an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ **contribution** to FCAT to help support its education programs.

Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address\_\_\_\_\_ How did you find out about FCAT?\_\_\_\_\_

To help educate others, I would like to volunteer on this committee(s):

- MEMBERSHIP - contact community organizations to schedule our presentation; act as chapter phone contact
- PUBLICITY - talk to local groups using a prepared presentation; work with media to advertise FCAT
- NEWSLETTER - contribute to our newsletter
- WEBSITE - contribute to maintaining our website
- SURVEYS - contact funeral homes for price lists
- ANNUAL MEETING - help plan the annual meeting
- LEGISLATIVE - Follow and report on relevant state legislation
- FUND RAISING - help increase our funds
- AD HOC – review and update our written materials for local relevance

Please mail with check or money order to:

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