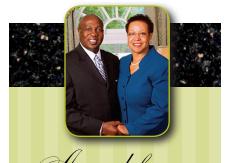


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A Family Serving Families Worldwide Since 1980



### A word from the owners...

When my wife Betty and I first opened Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, we had no desire to be the largest; we simply strived to be the best. We never imagined that we would serve 1400 families a year, and grow into the largest independently owned and operated funeral home in Georgia. Our desire was strictly to serve the community, no matter your nationality or religion, with dignity and first class care. Regardless of how established we become in the business world, what means the most to us is the relationships we develop with our clients. Every person we're honored to serve becomes our top priority. Without those families entrusting their loved ones to our care we would not be where we are today. We believe that everything we do is for the greater good of the community, and will continue to raise the standard of caring for families in need, and provide dignified first class service worldwide for generations to come. Thank you for supporting Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory since 1980.

# FOUR REASONS TO PREPLAN

Not everyone likes to plan ahead, and especially not for something like a funeral. However, there are a number of compelling reasons to arrange your final wishes long before you will need them. Here are four of the most common reasons:

#### Your Family Will Know Your Wishes Sadly, many families experience disputes and hard feelings when arranging for a loved one's unexpected death. Because memories of the loved one's wishes sometimes contradict each other, disagreements can easily arise. Such infighting and disunity can drive bitter emotions and damage the healing process. By making your plans now, your loved ones don't have to guess at what you may have wanted; they will know you were remembered as you wanted to be.



### 2 Urgent Decisions Are Completed Now

Did you know that often more than 150 decisions and tasks must be completed within the first 24 to 48 hours after an individual's passing? By arranging your final wishes ahead of time, you can ensure that your loved ones don't have to wrestle over those details and decisions during their time of emotional upheaval. The ability to know everything is taken care of will allow proper remembrance and the first steps of healing. Peace of Mind is Yours

All of your arrangements are guaranteed and will be carried out just as you have directed. You and your family can feel comfortable that although you won't need the plans for years to come, when they are needed, they will be available and take care of. There is an immense peace knowing your wishes will be executed as you designed them, meaning those you care about will be able to remember you as you want them to.

... continued on back



## THE HISTORY OF GREGORY B. LEVETT & SONS FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory has established themselves locally and internationally, through superior service to families of all nationalities and religions. Dedication to serving all communities worldwide, with dignity and the upmost respect remains the primary focus. Gregory and his wife, Betty, opened their first chapel in 1980 in Scottdale, Georgia. Three out of their four children are in the funeral business, and are licensed death care industry professionals. They have since expanded their family business to include four additional chapels in Scottdale, Lawrenceville, Decatur, and Convers, Georgia. The Levett's decided to open Cremation Care of Georgia, also located in Conyers, GA, in 2015 to better serve the community needing more affordable options. The decision to come back to Rockdale County and open a funeral home and crematory was important to Mr. Levett for many reasons, his dedication to giving back to the place that raised him, being a big part of it.

Before the establishment of his first funeral home, Mr. Levett used his entrepreneurial calling to acquire a Radio Shack franchise, and also became the manager of a local grocery store in Conyers. At the time he felt the funeral business was too time consuming, but he still worked in it part time. As a young child he began working with his father, George Levett, Sr. in the funeral business. Gregory took pride in serving others, even as a child. Still he decided to explore other options, and build a name as a businessman in other ways. In 1970 he made history as the second African American store manager for the Colonial Grocery Store, which was located on West Avenue in Convers. He was also the youngest store manager in the United States, at 20 years old.

Following in the footsteps of his dad he became a licensed funeral director in 1973. As the business continued to grow, many of the families Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory continuously found themselves serving were in the Rockdale and Newton counties. 15% of their businesses were coming from those areas. This was well before the location in Conyers opened. Because of the exceptional service and strong relationships that were built over the years, they were who people trusted when dealing with the tough reality of death. It was only fitting that another location was opened in the area where Gregory and Betty Levett had family, friends and also a rich history.

Mr. Levett's dedication to philanthropy and community service includes a long list of organizations. He is a member and former president of the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, and member and former president of the Georgia Funeral Service Practitioners Association. Gregory Levett is also a member and former president of the DeKalb Chapter of the 100 Black Men of America, lifetime member of the NAACP, and currently serves as a member on the Board of Directors for the DeKalb Medical Center. Mr. Levett and his wife Betty also made the largest donation to the DeKalb Medical Center (Hillandale), by a minority since 1961. The hospital went on to create the Gregory B. Levett Sr. and Betty H. Levett Emergency Department Reception in their honor, because of their generosity. Mr. Levett also serves on the Board of Directors for North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company.

It is clear that the Levett family's commitment to service and love for others goes far beyond funeral services. It is something that is also instilled into their licensed and trained staff of almost



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135 people. In 2015 Gregory Levett, Sr. was awarded the top Funeral Director in the Nation by the American Funeral Director Magazine. This award is the highest honor someone can receive within the death care industry. It solidified his place not only in the industry, but as an honorable businessman as well. Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory hopes to continue to serve families worldwide and in the Rockdale and Newton county communities with first class service, for generations to come.

Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, Inc. and Cremation Care of Georgia has no affiliation with any other funeral homes or crematories bearing the name Levett.



Testimonial

I am grateful for Mr. Gregory Levett and the staff at Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory. You all are true professionals who understand the importance of valuing your clients and providing dignified services with class and sensitivity. My children and I were treated like family and we were able to have closure knowing that my husband was taken care of the right way. I'm forever grateful and have a peace of mind knowing that I made the right decision to choose your highly recommended firm. I don't know how I would have gotten through the difficult task of burring my husband without you. You will forever be a part of our family like we are a part of yours. Thank you. 🎵

### **FOUR REASONS** – continued from cover

Funeral Costs Are Addressed As with nearly all products and services, inflation drives the cost of funerals up yearly. Preplanning and prefunding your final wishes generally ensures that your funeral is completely paid for—at today's prices. While many people assume savings or life insurance

will cover their final expenses, funerals must be paid for upfront, while many life insurance policies or bank accounts aren't accessible to families until well after funeral services are rendered. By prefunding, your family isn't left to decide who will pay for the funeral.