

# Funeral Etiquette Guide



*Courtesy of Calumet Park Cemetery  
Calumet Park Funeral Chapels  
and Rendina Funeral Home*



*Calumet Park*  
Cemetery and Funeral Chapels  
and Rendina Funeral Home

**A ride to remember...  
Only from Calumet Park Cemetery.**



# Funeral Etiquette

**Like so many customs and traditions, behavior when attending a funeral has changed over the years. Below is a suggested guideline for proper decorum for today's visitors to a funeral home:**

- **Dress code.** The casual approach to so many events in our lives today makes the idea of wearing black obsolete. If you are not sure of the wishes of the family, then dress conservatively, and avoid bright colors.

- **Signing the register book.** Many books include space for your name and address along with room to describe your relationship to the deceased. This helps the family when sending thank you cards to those who attended the funeral of their loved one. Were you a friend from work? An old school buddy? Someone from church?

- **What to say?** Quite often we are at a loss for words when greeting a loved one of the deceased. Simplicity is the best approach. "I'm sorry for your loss" is usually enough. It is just as important to know what not to say as there is no way that any of us know what someone else is feeling at such times.

- **Don't neglect to step into the receiving line.** Offer your sincere condolences as mentioned above as you introduce yourself and let the family know how you knew the deceased.

- **Giving a gift.** Although it is not expected, sending flowers or donating to a cause is acceptable. Regardless, include a card to let the family know who to thank.

- **How long should a person stay at the funeral home for visitation?** You are there to pay your respects to the family. Stay for the entire service or sign in and locate the family to offer your condolences in person.

- **Is it necessary to view the deceased?** It is not necessary though most visitors do pay their respects. Simply put, do what is comfortable.

- **Are children welcome at a funeral?** Children are welcome. However, if you feel their presence could cause a disturbance to those in attendance, consider leaving them with a sitter. If the children were close to the deceased, it may be a good idea to invite them so they can experience this part of the life cycle.

- **Smartphones should be turned off before entering the visitation area of a funeral home.** Ringing phones and texting is impolite at the least and may be considered inconsiderate of the grieving family and friends at the most. Taking pictures or videos is not acceptable behavior in a viewing/visitation room as it may be looked at as an invasion of one's privacy.

*Calumet Park and all affiliates offer our condolences to those we serve. If you have any questions regarding funeral etiquette or any other funeral, cremation or cemetery related topics, call 219-769-8803 and set up a private meeting with one of our caring funeral directors or family service counselors.*

*Calumet Park is privately owned and operated since 1928. You are invited to visit our website, [www.mycalumetpark.com](http://www.mycalumetpark.com) or our facebook at mycalumetpark to do research on your own. Pre-planning for the inevitable makes sense.*

# The Calumet Park / Rendina Difference

We know that coping with a loss is always difficult and understand that providing a fitting tribute to the life that has been lived is the first step in the grieving process. We work with families to create a service that reflects the interests and achievements of your loved one.

*Providing families with caring service since 1928  
Family owned and operated.*



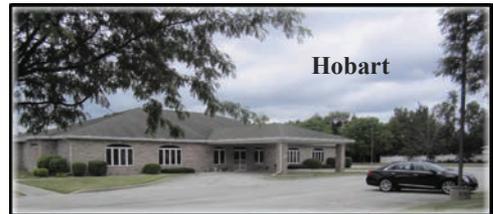
Merrillville



Cemetery Office in Merrillville



Gary



Hobart

*Calumet Park Cemetery*  
(219) 769-8803  
2305 W. 73rd Avenue  
Merrillville, IN 46410

*Calumet Park Funeral Chapel*  
(219) 736-5840  
7535 Taft Street  
Merrillville, IN 46410

*Rendina Funeral Home*  
(219) 980-1141  
5100 Cleveland Street  
Gary, IN 46408

*Calumet Park Funeral Chapel*  
(219) 940-3791  
370 N. County Line Road  
Hobart, IN 46342



Find us on Facebook at  
**mycalumetpark**

