

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

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**Coleman Funeral Home shifts gears
with new location, refocused mission**

Simpler facility means same quality of service, more affordable prices

After a decade of serving the families of Oxford and Lafayette County, Coleman Funeral Home is redefining its role in the community with a new location, new owner and new mission for its service.

The funeral home is leaving its extensive facility on Highway 7 North, which is being purchased by The Orchard church. Coleman Funeral Home will continue operating from a branch location off West Jackson Avenue at 106 Allison Cove as it seeks a new permanent location.

Funeral director Glenn Coleman will retain a leadership role alongside the funeral home's new co-owner and chief financial officer, local physician Tom Fowlkes, MD. Funeral director Ellen Weaver will also remain on staff.

"Without the burden of a huge mortgage, Glenn and his staff will be better able to meet the needs of families in our community, by offering the same quality of service at a price people can afford," Fowlkes said.

"Glenn has earned a good reputation as a caring funeral director over these past 10 years. I'm glad he will have the opportunity to continue building upon that."

Focus on service

Coleman said the funeral home's transition reflects ongoing changes in the industry. Today, offering a fancy facility for funeral services is less important than simply providing quality, customized service based on each family's needs.

"Increasingly, our role includes handling details for out-of-town families, like arranging airport pickups and catered meals," he said. "Grieving families are dealing with so much, it is a relief to them to be able to focus on remembering their loved one's life and reconnecting with each other."

Likewise, he said, being able to provide quality services at an affordable price resonates with many families, who believe they should be able to honor their loved one without taking on a financial burden that may compromise their family's future.

"As with anything in life, you can spend as much as you want to on a funeral and memorialize your loved one in exactly the way you want," Coleman said. "The service we offer can fulfill the vision of those families — but also meet the needs of those for whom our \$1,495 base package is already a stretch."

“Everyone deserves a chance to honor their loved one with dignity.”

Paring back

Coleman Funeral Home has had its own experience with the burden of overbearing financial commitments. The initial facility investment made by other members of the Coleman family, who are no longer involved in the business, resulted in foreclosure in 2012.

Since then, Coleman Funeral Home has been leasing its Highway 7 North facility from lender Abbeville Bank. The funeral home’s business has grown steadily during this period.

The original facility is now being purchased by The Orchard, a local congregation of which Glenn and his family are members. Coleman Funeral Home will work with The Orchard and other local churches to provide facilities for larger funeral services. Meanwhile, the adjoining Garden of Memories cemetery and Pet Rest Gardens will continue to be maintained.

Pre-arranged funeral and cremation services previously purchased through Coleman Funeral Home will not be affected by the transition.

Coleman Funeral Home’s new branch location is located next to the Metrocast Communications building on Allison Cove, off West Jackson Avenue just west of Anderson Road.

The funeral home will retain its existing contact numbers and mailing address: Phone (662) 234-3900; Fax (662) 234-1242; P.O. Box 160, Oxford, MS 38655.

For more information, email Glenn Coleman at gcoleman@colemanfuneralhome.com or visit colemanfuneralhome.com.

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