

## **Gleasure - Serving Kerry families for over 40 years**

The Gleasure name has long been involved in supporting families in Kerry through their time of greatest need. The Gleasure funeral business first opened its doors on the Matt Talbot Road in Tralee over 40 years ago and has, since then, offered the highest possible standards of funeral services, in both traditional and contemporary styles.

“My father Pat opened one of the first purpose-built funeral facilities in Ireland,” says Graham, the current director of the Gleasure Funeral Home.

“He had the idea of creating spacious premises that would provide a soothing atmosphere and this idea was quickly embraced and appreciated by the public.” Pat’s idea changed the way funerals were conducted in Kerry. Instead of gathering at the family home or a hospital morgue, people have since been able to pay their respects to bereaved family members in the professional and caring atmosphere of The Gleasure Funeral Home.

“The funeral home became a place where the family could meet the public and it eased the burden of managing crowds at the family home,” says Graham. Over the years, Pat acquired a number of local firms. Families in villages and towns beyond Tralee turned to The Gleasure Funeral Home where they always received a top quality professional service. From the beginning, they have offered a 24-hour service. The phone is always answered - no matter what the hour, day or night. The Gleasure family has at all times been committed to maintaining high standards.

“Pat and Margaret’s vision was based on professionalism in every aspect of the funeral – care, dignity, staff, buildings, ambience, equipment and vehicles,” says Graham. Pat had undertaken extensive training to qualify as one of Ireland’s foremost embalmers and to be invited to join the esteemed British Institute of Embalmers. Embalming is a discreet and professional medical process that ensures that their loved one is hygienically presented in a manner that brings comfort to the bereaved family and friends. Pat Gleasure then became involved in promoting professional standards for funeral directors nationwide. This led to his being a founding member of the Irish Association of Funeral Directors. Pat was President and Graham has, more recently, taken on the roles of President and Public Relations Officer. They both share a passion for professionalism and creating high standards.

The history of The Gleasure Funeral Home reflects the recent history of funerals in Kerry. Forty years ago, Pat and Margaret set out to offer new and improved services to bereaved families in Kerry and, four decades later Gleasures are still committed to looking after grieving families. They make the process of organising a funeral for a loved one as easy as possible for the family. “We handle all of the arrangements from the initial phone call or meeting,” says Graham, Director of The Gleasure Funeral Home. “We liaise with the church and clergy. We prepare the grave and cemetery. We publish the public announcements and organise flowers or music.”

## **Dedicated to providing care and dignity**

GREAT CARE is taken to reflect the family’s exact wishes. “Whether the funeral involves a traditional burial or otherwise, we are compassionate and we strive to personalize the ceremony as the bereaved decide,” says Graham.

## **CREMATION**

“Cremation is becoming more popular in Ireland and is an alternative choice for families. Quite often, it follows the traditional funeral procedure with reposal at the funeral home followed by church services,” he said. “The funeral can be held publicly or privately regarding the use of the funeral home, church or crematorium. Depending on the family’s requirements, we use the crematorium facilities in Shannon, Cork or Dublin. “We organise the cremation process from the initial discussion through preparing the necessary documentation to the ceremony and handing the remains to the family afterwards.”