KJ Cemetery Committee Memorandum

“After 120 Years”
Burial in Israel

There are those who wish to be buried in the Land of Israel, and although KJ does not have a direct relationship with cemeteries in Israel, we are happy to assist our members to make suitable arrangements.

Our members have been assisted in the past to bury loved ones in Israel by Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, Inc. located at:
630 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10024
(212) 769-4400
plaza@plazajewish.org

Our members have also been assisted in the past by Riverside Memorial Chapel located at:
180 W 76th Street, New York, NY 10023 (212) 362-6600

The following information has been provided to share with KJ members. This information should be used as guidance only, as circumstances and time can impact pricing and availability.

Examples of Cemeteries in Israel that sell plots to non-Israelis

Eretz HaChaim in Beit Shemesh
Plots: $11,000
Grave Opening: $2,200
Har Hamnuchot in Jerusalem

Plots: $25,000
Grave opening charges: $2,500

What the Chapel in the US Needs:

If the deceased was a US citizen, the funeral home will need a copy of their US passport; if the deceased was an Israeli citizen, their Israeli passport will be required. In either case a letter is also needed from the Chevra Kadisha in Israel, stating that they have a grave awaiting them there. El Al security needs to know if the deceased has any metal in his/her body.

Additional Costs and Arrangements

El Al charges are now about $2,200, and United Airline charges about $2,800 for the transport of a deceased to Israel. There are usually 2 flights per day to Israel. An Israeli shipping casket is used, as required by airlines (plain pine with zinc inside).

The funeral home will also inform the airline of the passport names of the passengers accompanying the deceased to Israel.

Before the deceased is allowed to enter, the Israeli Consulate also has to give permission. The consulate documentation charges are now $995.

The Chevra Kadisha in Israel also requires the names and contact numbers of any family members of the deceased that reside in Israel.

The deceased has to be at the airport at least 2 1/2 hours before the flight. A Tahara has to be performed by a Chevra Kadisha that is approved by the Chevra Kadisha in Israel, or they will have to redo the Tahara when they receive the deceased in Israel.
If interested in burial in Israel, please contact:

Shaul Ginsberg, Community Liaison
Plaza Jewish Community Chapel:
P: 212-769-4400 | C: 917-635-0751

or

Joel Simon
Riverside Memorial Chapel
212-362-660