

Birzer Funeral Home Continuing a tradition of care

Birzer Funeral Homes continue to serve the communities of Rice County carrying on the profession that was started here in 1882. Blayne and Teresa Rons purchased the funeral homes in Lyons and Sterling from Tim and Donetta Birzer in 2015. Blayne grew up in Arma, Kansas and went to mortuary school in Kansas City. He became a licensed funeral director and embalmer in 2008 and worked at a funeral home in Ottawa until the time he moved to Lyons. Tim received his funeral director and embalming licenses in 1978 and continues to work on a daily basis, as does Jackie Ramage who has been a licensed funeral director since 1976.



THE DEDICATED STAFF OF BIRZER FUNERAL HOME Jack Howerton, Jackie Ramage, Tim Birzer, Donetta Birzer, Blayne Rons, Teresa Rons & Braden, Robert Friesen, Landon Hege, Ralph Wilson, Naomi Loomis, Keith Shank, Kent Shuyler.

Other longtime employees include Bob Friesen, Kent Shuyler, Ralph Wilson, Jack Howerton, Naomi Loomis and Keith Shank. We have seen a growing interest in those we serve concerning the preplanning of their own funeral services. This consists of everything from selecting their music, pallbearers, place of services, who they would like to speak and

sometimes what they would like for them to say. Also available is the option to prepay funeral expenses which guarantees our services until the time of need. The funeral homes have also been involved in monument sales dating back to 1961.

At SANDSTONE HEIGHTS

Every resident is an individual

LITTLE RIVER - Providing a home like environment for the residents of the facility has been the goal of Sandstone Heights in Little River since the doors opened in 1972 as the Rice County Hospital District No. 2. The long-term care facility added independent apartments in 1995 and assisted living apartments in 2001, which has rounded out the continuing care retirement community. "We believe in the Eden alternative principles," said John Gaines, administrator. "Basically it means we treat every resident as an individual and provide the best home-like environment we can." When Little River lost the hospital, area church members formed a committee and built Sandstone Heights. Today the board consists of five members, Randall Olander, chairperson; Dalene

Teeter, Kay Howie secretary; Curtis Randall and Doug Peters. The home-like environment can be seen walking into any resident's room. Each person is allowed to decorate his/ her surroundings as they want and bring items from home. Sandstone Heights is small enough, according to Gaines, that the staff can cook homemade meals with a choice menu for residents. Sandstone Heights has a rehabilitation area where local therapists come to work with residents. "Members of the community can also meet a therapist come here to receive physical therapy," Gaines said. For more information about the facility and openings call Sandstone Heights (620) 897-6266, or visit its Web site at www.sandstoneheights.com

The one thing to do BEFORE going on public aid.

Even though the state requires you deplete all your assets before receiving public aid, there is a way to protect some of what you have worked so hard to save. Kansas Public Aid allows you a pre-arranged funeral including casket, vault, cemetery property, grave marker or burial crypt in addition to a set amount of cash assets. You must make funeral arrangements before applying for aid. We can explain the laws governing prepaid funerals before you apply for public aid. If you, or someone you know, are considering aid, consult our funeral home for complete information.

For a no obligation consultation contact:

BIRZER Funeral Homes
& Granite Memorials
Lyons - Sterling
Funeral Homes & Granite Memorials

214 WEST AVENUE SOUTH
LYONS, KS 67554 • 620-257-2211

203 NORTH 7TH STREET
STERLING • KS 67579 • 620-278-3531

RICE COUNTY Habitat for Humanity

The beginning of the effort in 2005

The interior of the Re-Store today.

The last house completed and occupied.

Sandstone Heights
A non-profit nursing home

Caring For Those You Care About...
Affordable Nursing Care

Come visit us anytime and see the quality of care we provide our residents and lower rates. Whether it is short term convalescent care and rehabilitation or long term nursing care, Sandstone Heights has the staff, facilities and programs to suit your needs.

Write or call for more information:
Sandstone Heights
Nursing Home
PO Box 50A • 440 State St.
Little River, KS 67456
(620) 897-6266

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