Mark Cournoyer was a dedicated and active member of the community, serving in various capacities. He attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 1986 with Jaffrey’s Boy Scout Troop 33. He has served on the National Disaster Medical Systems Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT). Over 15 years, Mark actively served in Mass Casualty and Disaster Response as a member of the Diversion Committee and was a Critical Incident Stress Debriefer for the local Fire, Rescue, EMS and Police Ambulance Service as an EMT-Intermediate for over eight years and had also worked in law enforcement for over 10 years on the Jaffrey and Fitzwilliam Police Departments. He has been a member of the Jaffrey Juvenile Diversion Committee and was a Critical Incident Stress Debriefer for the local Fire, Rescue, EMS and Police agencies. For over 15 years, Mark actively served in Mass Casualty and Disaster Response as a member of the National Disaster Medical Systems Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT).

Mark has been serving families from the same location since 1917. Mr. Cournoyer was a former selectman of Jaffrey; he was also owner-operator of the F. L. Cournoyer grocery store on Main Street. Mr. Cournoyer was a civic-minded individual and, upon the encouragement of family and friends, decided to enter the funeral profession. After graduating from the Massachusetts College of Embalming, he established the business and pioneered a legacy of excellent service under its original name, F. L. Cournoyer & Sons.

Fred’s son, Randyl P. Cournoyer, graduated from Boston College in 1936 receiving his Bachelor’s degree in Medical Science. Soon after, he joined his father in the operation of the family business. Randyl then passed the State of New Hampshire’s Funeral Director and Embalmer exams and became a licensed funeral director in 1938. After his father’s death in 1954, Randyl closed the grocery store in 1958 and continued to operate the funeral home as well as an insurance agency, which he had purchased from Louis Cournoyer in 1939. Randyl was very active in the Jaffrey community, having served for many years as a Trustee of the Trust Funds for Jaffrey, as well as having served on the Jaffrey-Gilmore Foundation and with the Jaffrey Grange. In 1997, the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce selected Randyl as the Director’s Award recipient for 1997. He continued to be actively involved with the business until his death on January 1, 2001.

Randyl’s son, Randyl P. Cournoyer, Jr., joined the family business after his graduation from both St. Anselm College in Manchester and the New England Institute of Anatomy and Science in Boston. He became a licensed funeral director in 1966. The business continued on more or less unchanged in the family home on River Street until 1980, when the legal owner of the business, Mrs. Kathleen Cournoyer (Randyl Sr.’s mother) died. Following her death, Randy, also a licensed insurance agent in his father’s agency, decided to make the funeral business his full-time occupation. Randy began reconstructing the family home into the current facility, now known as the Cournoyer Funeral Home & Cremation Center.

Randyl has also been very active in the Jaffrey community. He has been involved with St. Patrick Church, the Knights of Columbus, the Jaffrey-Randge Lions Club, Jaffrey’s Boy Scout Troop 33, the Jaffrey-Gilmore Foundation, the Jaffrey Conservation Commission, Monadnock Compassionate Friends, and the Alice Poole Fund. Randy was chosen as the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1994.