

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended **SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission file number **1-6402-1**



SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

74-1488375

(I.R.S. employer identification no.)

1929 Allen Parkway

Houston

Texas

(Address of principal executive offices)

77019

(Zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (713) 522-5141

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class	Trading Symbol (s)	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Stock (\$1 par value)	SCI	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in 12b-2 of the act). Yes No

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of November 2, 2023 was 147,744,718 (net of treasury shares).

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Glossary

The following terms are common to the deathcare industry, are used throughout this report, and have the following meanings:

Atneed — Funeral, including cremation, and cemetery arrangements sold once death has occurred.

Average Revenue per Service — Average revenue per funeral service performed, excluding the impact of funeral recognized preneed revenue, GA revenue, and certain other revenue.

Cancellation — Termination of a preneed contract, which relieves us of the obligation to provide the goods and services included in the contract. Cancellations may be requested by the customer or be initiated by us for failure to comply with the contractual terms of payment. State or provincial laws govern the amount of refund, if any, owed to the customer.

Care Trusts' Corpus — The deposits and net realized capital gains included in the perpetual care trusts that may not be withdrawable. In certain states, some or all of the net realized capital gains can also be distributed. Additionally, some states allow a total return distribution that may contain elements of income, capital appreciation, and principal.

Cemetery Marker — An item used to identify the deceased person in a particular burial space, crypt, niche, or cremation memorialization property. Permanent burial and cremation memorialization cemetery markers are usually made of bronze or stone.

Cemetery Merchandise and Services — Merchandise and services used in connection with a cemetery interment, including stone and bronze memorials, cemetery markers, outer burial containers, floral placement, graveside services, merchandise installations, urns, and interments.

Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust or Endowment Care Fund (ECF) — A trust fund established for the purpose of maintaining cemetery grounds and property into perpetuity. For these trusts, the corpus remains in the trust in perpetuity and the investment earnings or elected distributions are withdrawn regularly and are intended to defray our expenses incurred to maintain the cemetery. In certain states, some or all of the net realized capital gains can also be distributed. Additionally, some states allow a total return distribution that may contain elements of income, capital appreciation, and principal.

Cemetery Property — Developed lots, lawn crypts, mausoleum spaces, niches, and cremation memorialization property items (constructed and ready to accept interments) and undeveloped land we intend to develop for the sale of interment rights. Includes the construction-in-progress balance during the pre-construction and construction phases of projects creating new developed property items.

Cemetery Property Amortization or Amortization of Cemetery Property — The non-cash recognized expenses of cemetery property interment rights, which are recorded by specific identification with the cemetery property revenue for each contract.

Cemetery Property Interment Rights — The exclusive right to determine the human remains that will be interred in a specific cemetery property space. See also Cemetery Property Revenue below.

Cemetery Property Revenue — Recognized sales of interment rights in cemetery property when the receivable is deemed collectible and the property is fully constructed and available for interment.

Combination Location (Combos) — Locations where a funeral service location is physically located within or adjoining a SCI-owned cemetery location.

Cremation — The reduction of human remains to bone fragments by intense heat.

Cremation Memorialization — Products specifically designed to commemorate and honor the life of an individual who has been cremated. These products include cemetery property items that provide for the disposition of cremated remains within our cemeteries such as benches, boulders, statues, niches, etc. They also include memorial walls and books where the name of the individual is inscribed but the remains have been scattered or kept by the family.

Funeral Merchandise and Services — Merchandise such as burial caskets and related accessories, outer burial containers, urns and other cremation receptacles, casket and cremation memorialization products, flowers, and professional services relating to funerals including arranging and directing services, use of funeral facilities and motor vehicles, removal, preparation, embalming, cremations, memorialization, visitations, travel protection, and catering.

Funeral Recognized Preneed Revenue — Funeral merchandise and travel protection, net, sold to a preneed customer and delivered before a death has occurred.

Funeral Services Performed — The number of funeral services, including cremations, provided after the date of death, sometimes referred to as funeral volume.

General Agency (GA) Revenue — Commissions we receive from third-party life insurance companies for life insurance policies sold to preneed customers for the purpose of funding preneed funeral arrangements. The commission rate paid is determined based on the product type sold, the length of payment terms, and the health and age of the insured/annuitant.

Interment — The burial or final placement of human remains in the ground (interment), in mausoleums (entombment), or in niches or cremation memorialization property (inurnment).

Lawn Crypt — Cemetery property in which an underground outer burial receptacle constructed of concrete and reinforced steel has been pre-installed in predetermined designated areas.

Maturity — When the underlying contracted merchandise is delivered or service is performed, typically at death. This is the point at which preneed funeral contracts are converted to atneed contracts (note — delivery of certain merchandise and services can occur prior to death).

Mausoleum — An above ground structure that is designed to house caskets and/or cremation urns.

Merchandise and Service Trust — A trust account established in accordance with state or provincial law into which we deposit the required percentage of customers' payments for preneed funeral, cremation, or cemetery merchandise and services to be delivered or performed by us in the future. The amounts deposited can be withdrawn only after we have completed our obligations under the preneed contract or upon the cancellation of the contract. Also referred to as a preneed trust.

Outer Burial Container — A reinforced container intended to inhibit the subsidence of the earth and house the casket after it is placed in the ground, also known as a burial vault.

Preneed — Purchase of cemetery property interment rights or any funeral or cemetery merchandise and services prior to death occurring.

Preneed Backlog or Backlog of Preneed Revenue — Future revenue from unfulfilled preneed funeral, cremation, and cemetery contractual arrangements.

Preneed Cemetery Sales Production — Sales of preneed cemetery contracts. These sales are recorded in *Deferred revenue, net* until the merchandise is delivered, the service is performed, or the property has been constructed and is available for interment.

Preneed Funeral Sales Production — Sales of preneed funeral trust-funded and insurance-funded contracts. Preneed funeral trust-funded contracts are recorded in *Deferred revenue, net* until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. We do not reflect the unfulfilled insurance-funded preneed funeral contract amounts in our Consolidated Balance Sheet. The proceeds of the life insurance policies will be reflected in revenue as these funerals are performed by us in the future.

Preneed Receivables, Net — Amounts due from customers when we have delivered the merchandise, performed the service, or transferred control of the cemetery property interment rights prior to a death occurring and amounts due from customers on irrevocable preneed contracts.

Travel Protection — A service provided by a third-party that provides shipment of remains to the servicing funeral home of choice if the purchaser passes away outside of a certain radius of their residence, without any additional expense to the family.

Trust Fund Income — Recognized investment earnings from our merchandise and service and perpetual care trust investments.

As used herein, "SCI," "Company," "we," "our," and "us" refer to Service Corporation International and companies owned directly or indirectly by Service Corporation International, unless the context requires otherwise. Management has published a white paper on the corporate website for further understanding of accounting for preneed sales. You can view the white paper at <http://investors.sci-corp.com> under Featured Documents. Documents and information on our website are not incorporated by reference herein.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements Service Corporation International Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations (Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	(In thousands, except per share amounts)			
Revenue				
Property and merchandise revenue	\$ 520,651	\$ 508,746	\$ 1,568,750	\$ 1,600,109
Service revenue	407,471	403,725	1,256,919	1,278,841
Other revenue	73,737	65,249	218,313	202,028
Total revenue	1,001,859	977,720	3,043,982	3,080,978
Costs of revenue				
Cost of property and merchandise	(263,251)	(256,700)	(795,152)	(779,230)
Cost of service	(225,673)	(222,636)	(686,705)	(659,978)
Overhead and other expenses	(259,252)	(267,428)	(757,880)	(767,256)
Costs of revenue	(748,176)	(746,764)	(2,239,737)	(2,206,464)
Gross profit	253,683	230,956	804,245	874,514
Corporate general and administrative expenses	(33,213)	(41,911)	(112,294)	(129,336)
Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	2,542	14,403	10,187	15,186
Operating income	223,012	203,448	702,138	760,364
Interest expense	(61,512)	(43,508)	(174,904)	(123,107)
Losses on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	(1,114)	(1,225)
Other income (expense), net	128	(1,514)	2,647	(2,489)
Income before income taxes	161,628	158,426	528,767	633,543
Provision for income taxes	(39,585)	(37,521)	(129,543)	(159,925)
Net income	122,043	120,905	399,224	473,618
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	(72)	(55)	(302)	(585)
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 121,971	\$ 120,850	\$ 398,922	\$ 473,033
Basic earnings per share:				
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.77	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.98
Basic weighted average number of shares	150,630	156,781	151,654	158,921
Diluted earnings per share:				
Net income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.76	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.93
Diluted weighted average number of shares	152,289	159,100	153,554	161,398

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

Service Corporation International Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income (Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	(In thousands)			
Net income	\$ 122,043	\$ 120,905	\$ 399,224	\$ 473,618
Other comprehensive income:				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(9,298)	(22,046)	(1,215)	(28,634)
Total comprehensive income	112,745	98,859	398,009	444,984
Total comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests	(69)	(50)	(299)	(579)
Total comprehensive income attributable to common stockholders	\$ 112,676	\$ 98,809	\$ 397,710	\$ 444,405

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

Service Corporation International

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited)

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
(In thousands, except share amounts)		
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 172,710	\$ 191,938
Receivables, net of reserves of \$4,224 and \$6,186, respectively	84,118	96,681
Inventories	34,190	31,740
Income tax receivable	131,152	7,021
Other	31,631	32,466
Total current assets	453,801	359,846
Preneed receivables, net of reserves of \$30,215 and \$27,314, respectively, and trust investments	5,827,850	5,577,499
Cemetery property	1,988,636	1,939,816
Property and equipment, net	2,442,085	2,350,549
Goodwill	1,964,687	1,945,588
Deferred charges and other assets, net of reserves of \$2,520 and \$3,602, respectively	1,227,196	1,190,426
Cemetery perpetual care trust investments	1,778,882	1,702,313
Total assets	\$ 15,683,137	\$ 15,066,037
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 641,757	\$ 707,488
Current maturities of long-term debt	62,646	90,661
Income taxes payable	8,469	1,131
Total current liabilities	712,872	799,280
Long-term debt	4,511,533	4,251,083
Deferred revenue, net	1,651,713	1,624,028
Deferred tax liability	611,676	445,040
Other liabilities	436,491	411,376
Deferred receipts held in trust	4,351,637	4,163,520
Care trusts' corpus	1,776,520	1,698,287
Commitments and contingencies (Note 9)		
Equity:		
Common stock, \$1 per share par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized, 156,834,670 and 156,088,438 shares issued, respectively, and 149,555,188 and 153,940,365 shares outstanding, respectively	149,555	153,940
Capital in excess of par value	950,739	958,329
Retained earnings	514,811	544,384
Accumulated other comprehensive income	15,326	16,538
Total common stockholders' equity	1,630,431	1,673,191
Noncontrolling interests	264	232
Total equity	1,630,695	1,673,423
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 15,683,137	\$ 15,066,037

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

Service Corporation International Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In thousands)	
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 399,224	\$ 473,618
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Loss on early extinguishment of debt	1,114	1,225
Depreciation and amortization	141,228	130,451
Amortization of intangibles	14,158	14,059
Amortization of cemetery property	71,892	69,059
Amortization of loan costs	5,133	5,182
Provision for expected credit losses	6,997	11,404
Provision for deferred income taxes	166,786	7,302
Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	(10,187)	(15,186)
Gain on sale of investments	—	(1,169)
Share-based compensation	11,786	11,063
Change in assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisitions and divestitures:		
Decrease in receivables	11,781	15,349
(Increase) decrease in other assets	(161,687)	2,622
Decrease in payables and other liabilities	(21,961)	(17,147)
Effect of preneed sales production and maturities:		
Increase in preneed receivables, net and trust investments	(162,087)	(248,289)
Increase in deferred revenue, net	105,923	173,474
Increase in deferred receipts held in trust	11,358	22,426
Net cash provided by operating activities	591,458	655,443
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Capital expenditures	(267,752)	(252,763)
Business acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(72,535)	(13,488)
Real estate acquisitions	(41,084)	(8,901)
Proceeds from divestitures and sales of property and equipment	22,713	31,394
Proceeds from sale of investments and other	—	1,330
Payments for Company-owned life insurance policies	(8,050)	(1,788)
Proceeds from Company-owned life insurance policies and other	10,119	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(356,589)	(244,216)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	737,433	325,000
Debt issuance costs	(7,471)	—
Scheduled payments of debt	(16,402)	(27,212)
Early payments and extinguishment of debt	(490,973)	(65,591)
Principal payments on finance leases	(25,678)	(26,779)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	16,106	16,840
Purchase of Company common stock	(340,279)	(586,562)
Payments of dividends	(125,543)	(118,435)
Bank overdrafts and other	(9,362)	(13,854)
Net cash used in financing activities	(262,169)	(496,593)
Effect of foreign currency	(298)	(4,744)
Net decrease in cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash	(27,598)	(90,110)
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at beginning of period	204,524	278,555
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at end of period	\$ 176,926	\$ 188,445

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

Service Corporation International Condensed Consolidated Statement of Equity (Unaudited)

	Common Stock	Treasury Stock, Par Value	Capital in Excess of Par Value	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Noncontrolling Interest	Total
(In thousands, except per share amounts)							
Balance at December 31, 2021	\$ 166,822	\$ (3,708)	\$ 979,096	\$ 727,021	\$ 40,214	\$ 4	\$ 1,909,449
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	219,513	7,279	54	226,846
Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.25 per share)	—	—	—	(39,964)	—	—	(39,964)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	3,687	—	—	—	3,687
Stock option exercises	7	—	265	—	—	—	272
Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures	147	—	(147)	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(4,104)	(24,613)	(227,638)	—	—	(256,355)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(162)	(162)
Other	—	—	(1,127)	—	—	—	(1,127)
Balance at March 31, 2022	\$ 166,976	\$ (7,812)	\$ 957,161	\$ 678,932	\$ 47,493	\$ (104)	\$ 1,842,646
Comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	132,670	(13,866)	475	119,279
Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.25 per share)	—	—	—	(39,663)	—	—	(39,663)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	3,713	—	—	—	3,713
Stock option exercises	574	—	15,351	—	—	—	15,925
Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures	2	—	(2)	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(1,545)	(9,327)	(92,887)	—	—	(103,759)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(141)	(141)
Other	24	—	1,559	—	—	—	1,583
Balance at June 30, 2022	\$ 167,576	\$ (9,357)	\$ 968,455	\$ 679,052	\$ 33,627	\$ 230	\$ 1,839,583
Comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	120,850	(22,041)	50	98,859
Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.25 per share)	—	—	—	(38,808)	—	—	(38,808)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	3,663	—	—	—	3,663
Stock option exercises	23	—	620	—	—	—	643
Restricted stock awards, net of forfeitures	—	(1)	1	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(3,503)	(21,482)	(201,463)	—	—	(226,448)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(60)	(60)
Other	—	—	(10)	—	—	—	(10)
Balance at September 30, 2022	\$ 167,599	\$ (12,861)	\$ 951,247	\$ 559,631	\$ 11,586	\$ 220	\$ 1,677,422

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

PART I

Service Corporation International Condensed Consolidated Statement of Equity (Unaudited)

	Common Stock	Treasury Stock, Par Value	Capital in Excess of Par Value	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Noncontrolling Interest	Total
(In thousands, except per share amounts)							
Balance at December 31, 2022	\$ 156,089	\$ (2,149)	\$ 958,329	\$ 544,384	\$ 16,538	\$ 232	\$ 1,673,423
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	144,763	299	65	145,127
Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.27 per share)	—	—	—	(41,207)	—	—	(41,207)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	4,478	—	—	—	4,478
Stock option exercises	298	—	8,465	—	—	—	8,763
Restricted stock awards and units, net of forfeitures	132	1	(133)	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(2,432)	(16,500)	(148,373)	—	—	(167,305)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(107)	(107)
Other	—	—	(1,271)	—	—	—	(1,271)
Balance at March 31, 2023	\$ 156,519	\$ (4,580)	\$ 953,368	\$ 499,567	\$ 16,837	\$ 190	\$ 1,621,901
Comprehensive income	—	—	—	132,188	7,784	165	140,137
Dividends declared on common stock \$0.27 per share)	—	—	—	(40,780)	—	—	(40,780)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	3,671	—	—	—	3,671
Stock option exercises	232	—	5,569	—	—	—	5,801
Restricted stock awards and units, net of forfeitures	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(1,260)	(8,603)	(76,996)	—	—	(86,859)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(101)	(101)
Other	24	—	1,597	—	—	—	1,621
Balance at June 30, 2023	\$ 156,775	\$ (5,840)	\$ 955,602	\$ 513,979	\$ 24,621	\$ 254	\$ 1,645,391
Comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	121,971	(9,295)	69	112,745
Dividends declared on common stock (\$0.29 per share)	—	—	—	(43,556)	—	—	(43,556)
Employee share-based compensation earned	—	—	3,637	—	—	—	3,637
Stock option exercises	60	—	1,482	—	—	—	1,542
Restricted stock awards and units, net of forfeitures	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purchase of Company common stock	—	(1,440)	(9,982)	(77,583)	—	—	(89,005)
Noncontrolling interest payments	—	—	—	—	—	(59)	(59)
Balance at September 30, 2023	\$ 156,835	\$ (7,280)	\$ 950,739	\$ 514,811	\$ 15,326	\$ 264	\$ 1,630,695

(See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements)

Service Corporation International

Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

1. Nature of Operations

Service Corporation International (SCI) is a holding company and all operations are conducted by its subsidiaries. We are North America's largest provider of deathcare products and services, with a network of funeral service locations and cemeteries operating in the United States and Canada. Our funeral service and cemetery operations consist of funeral service locations, cemeteries, funeral service/cemetery combination locations, crematoria, and other related businesses, which enable us to serve a wide array of customer needs. We sell cemetery property and funeral and cemetery merchandise and services at the time of need and on a preneed basis. We strive to offer families exceptional service in planning life celebrations and personalized remembrances.

Funeral service locations provide all professional services relating to funerals and cremations, including the use of funeral facilities and motor vehicles, arranging and directing services, removal, preparation, embalming, cremations, memorialization, travel protection, and catering. Funeral merchandise, including burial caskets and related accessories, urns and other cremation receptacles, outer burial containers, flowers, online and video tributes, stationery products, casket and cremation memorialization products, and other ancillary merchandise, is sold at funeral service locations.

Our cemeteries provide cemetery property interment rights, including developed lots, lawn crypts, mausoleum spaces, niches, and other cremation memorialization and interment options. Cemetery merchandise and services, including cemetery markers and bases, outer burial containers, flowers and floral placement, other ancillary merchandise, graveside memorial services, merchandise installation, and interments, are sold at our cemeteries.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Principles of Consolidation and Basis of Presentation

Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Service Corporation International and all subsidiaries in which we hold a controlling financial interest. Intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements also include the accounts of the merchandise and service trusts and cemetery perpetual care trusts in which we have a variable interest and are the primary beneficiary. We have retained the specialized industry accounting principles when consolidating the trusts. Although we consolidate the trusts, it does not change the legal relationships among the trusts, us, or our customers. The customers are the legal beneficiaries of these trusts; therefore, their interests in these trusts represent a liability to us.

Our interim condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited but include all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring accruals and any other adjustments, which management considers necessary for a fair statement of our results for these periods. Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in a manner consistent with the accounting policies described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022, unless otherwise disclosed herein, and should be read in conjunction therewith. The accompanying year-end Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet data was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year period.

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that may affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. As a result, actual results could differ from these estimates.

Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Restricted Cash

We consider all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. The carrying amounts of our cash and cash equivalents approximate fair value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

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The components of cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash were as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 172,710	\$ 191,938
Restricted cash ⁽¹⁾		
Included in <i>Other current assets</i>	2,010	10,379
Included in <i>Deferred charges and other assets, net</i>	2,206	2,207
Total restricted cash	4,216	12,586
Total cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash	\$ 176,926	\$ 204,524

⁽¹⁾ Restricted cash in both periods primarily consists of proceeds from divestitures deposited into escrow accounts under IRS code section 1031 and collateralized obligations under certain insurance policies.

Receivables, net

The components of *Receivables, net* in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet were as follows:

	September 30, 2023				
	Atneed Funeral	Atneed Cemetery	Miscellaneous	Current Portion of Notes	Total
	(In thousands)				
Receivables	\$ 25,559	\$ 20,452	\$ 42,062	\$ 269	\$ 88,342
Reserve for credit losses	(1,703)	(2,016)	(367)	(138)	(4,224)
Receivables, net	\$ 23,856	\$ 18,436	\$ 41,695	\$ 131	\$ 84,118

	December 31, 2022				
	Atneed Funeral	Atneed Cemetery	Miscellaneous	Current Portion of Notes	Total
	(In thousands)				
Receivables	\$ 44,417	\$ 19,781	\$ 38,483	\$ 186	\$ 102,867
Reserve for credit losses	(3,627)	(2,076)	(344)	(139)	(6,186)
Receivables, net	\$ 40,790	\$ 17,705	\$ 38,139	\$ 47	\$ 96,681

Additionally, included in *Deferred charges and other assets, net* were long-term miscellaneous receivables, net and notes receivable, net as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
Notes receivable	\$ 10,131	\$ 9,367
Reserve for credit losses	(1,797)	(2,546)
Notes receivable, net	\$ 8,334	\$ 6,821
Long-term miscellaneous receivables	\$ 7,869	\$ 7,993
Reserve for credit losses	(723)	(1,056)
Long-term miscellaneous receivables, net	\$ 7,146	\$ 6,937

The following table summarizes the activity in our reserve for credit losses by portfolio segment, excluding preneed receivables which are presented in Note 3, for the nine months ended September 30, 2023:

	December 31, 2022	(Provision) Benefit for Expected Credit Losses	Write Offs	Recoveries	Effect of Foreign Currency and Other	September 30, 2023
(In thousands)						
Trade receivables:						
Funeral	\$ (3,627)	\$ (1,532)	\$ 4,802	\$ (1,403)	\$ 57	\$ (1,703)
Cemetery	(2,076)	(670)	1,000	(265)	(5)	(2,016)
Total reserve for credit losses on trade receivables	\$ (5,703)	\$ (2,202)	\$ 5,802	\$ (1,668)	\$ 52	\$ (3,719)
Miscellaneous receivables:						
Current	\$ (344)	\$ (23)	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (367)
Long-term	(1,056)	333	—	—	—	(723)
Total reserve for credit losses on miscellaneous receivables	\$ (1,400)	\$ 310	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (1,090)
Notes receivable	\$ (2,685)	\$ 2	\$ 748	\$ —	\$ —	\$ (1,935)

At September 30, 2023, the amortized cost basis of our miscellaneous and notes receivables by year of origination was as follows:

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Prior	Revolving Line of Credit	Total
(In thousands)								
Miscellaneous receivables:								
Current	\$ 39,469	\$ 1,746	\$ 485	\$ 242	\$ 116	\$ 4	\$ —	\$ 42,062
Long-term	2,768	2,532	1,593	462	497	17	—	7,869
Total miscellaneous receivables	\$ 42,237	\$ 4,278	\$ 2,078	\$ 704	\$ 613	\$ 21	\$ —	\$ 49,931
Notes receivable	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 11	\$ —	\$ 4,730	\$ 5,659	\$ 10,400

At September 30, 2023, the payment status of our miscellaneous and notes receivables was as follows:

	Past Due				Total	Current	Total
	<30 Days	30-90 Days	90-180 Days	>180 Days			
(In thousands)							
Miscellaneous receivables:							
Current	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 302	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,487	\$ 40,575	\$ 42,062
Long-term	—	—	—	—	—	7,869	7,869
Total miscellaneous receivables	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 302	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,487	\$ 48,444	\$ 49,931
Notes receivable	\$ —	\$ 116	\$ —	\$ 1,116	\$ 1,232	\$ 9,168	\$ 10,400

Accounting Standards Adopted in 2023

Financial Instruments

In March 2022, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) amended guidance to require public companies to disclose the vintage year of receivable write-offs during the reporting period. We adopted the amended guidance in 2023 with no impact on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows. As receivable write-offs in the nine months ended September 30, 2023 were immaterial, we have not included the vintage year disclosure in this filing. We will add the vintage year disclosure in future filings for periods in which receivable write-offs are material, if any.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

Investments

In March 2023, the FASB amended guidance for equity investments made primarily for the purpose of receiving income tax credits and other income tax benefits. The amended guidance expands the option to use the proportional amortization method from investments in low-income-housing tax credit structures to all tax credit structures that meet certain requirements. The proportional amortization method results in the cost of the investment being amortized in proportion to the income tax credits and other income tax benefits received. The investment amortization and the income tax credits are presented net in the statement of operations as a component of income tax expense. The new guidance is effective as of January 1, 2024 with early adoption permitted. We are still evaluating the impact of the guidance on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Leases

In March 2023, the FASB amended guidance on determining the useful life of leasehold improvements associated with a lease between related parties under common control. The amended guidance requires that the leasehold improvements be amortized over the useful life of the improvements to the common control group as a whole. The new guidance is effective for us on January 1, 2024 and is not expected to have any impact on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

Fair Value Measurements

In June 2022, the FASB amended guidance to clarify that the fair value of investments in equity instruments with contractual sale restrictions should not be discounted as a result of the contractual restrictions. Additionally, the new guidance mandated disclosure of the fair value of any such securities, a description of the nature and duration of the restrictions, and circumstances that could cause a lapse in the restrictions. The new guidance is effective for us beginning with valuations that occur after January 1, 2024 and is not expected to have any impact on our consolidated results of operations, consolidated financial position, and cash flows.

3. Preneed Activities

Preneed Receivables, Net and Trust Investments

The components of *Preneed receivables, net and trust investments* in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet were as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
Preneed receivables, net	\$ 1,470,713	\$ 1,402,209
Trust investments, at market	5,916,668	5,663,163
Insurance-backed fixed income securities and other	219,351	214,440
Trust investments	6,136,019	5,877,603
Less: Cemetery perpetual care trust investments	(1,778,882)	(1,702,313)
Preneed trust investments	4,357,137	4,175,290
<i>Preneed receivables, net and trust investments</i>	\$ 5,827,850	\$ 5,577,499

Preneed receivables, net comprised the following:

September 30, 2023			
	Funeral	Cemetery	Total
(In thousands)			
Preneed receivables	\$ 192,677	\$ 1,325,085	\$ 1,517,762
Unearned finance charges	(10,530)	(6,304)	(16,834)
Preneed receivables, at amortized cost	182,147	1,318,781	1,500,928
Reserve for credit losses	(16,087)	(14,128)	(30,215)
Preneed receivables, net	\$ 166,060	\$ 1,304,653	\$ 1,470,713

December 31, 2022			
	Funeral	Cemetery	Total
(In thousands)			
Preneed receivables	\$ 180,108	\$ 1,267,304	\$ 1,447,412
Unearned finance charges	(11,129)	(6,760)	(17,889)
Preneed receivables, at amortized cost	168,979	1,260,544	1,429,523
Reserve for credit losses	(14,438)	(12,876)	(27,314)
Preneed receivables, net	\$ 154,541	\$ 1,247,668	\$ 1,402,209

At September 30, 2023, the amortized cost basis of our preneed receivables by year of origination was as follows:

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Prior	Total
(In thousands)							
Preneed receivables, at amortized cost:							
Funeral	\$ 65,181	\$ 53,310	\$ 28,785	\$ 13,072	\$ 7,642	\$ 14,157	\$ 182,147
Cemetery	393,000	435,554	267,642	138,828	52,746	31,011	1,318,781
Total preneed receivables, at amortized cost	\$458,181	\$488,864	\$296,427	\$151,900	\$ 60,388	\$ 45,168	\$1,500,928

At September 30, 2023, the payment status of our preneed receivables was as follows:

	Past Due				Total	Current	Total
	<30 Days	30-90 Days	90-180 Days	>180 Days			
(In thousands)							
Preneed receivables, at amortized cost:							
Funeral	\$ 5,951	\$ 3,655	\$ 2,492	\$ 25,297	\$ 37,395	\$ 144,752	\$ 182,147
Cemetery	50,989	37,235	11,208	4,109	103,541	1,215,240	1,318,781
Total preneed receivables, at amortized cost	\$ 56,940	\$ 40,890	\$ 13,700	\$ 29,406	\$140,936	\$1,359,992	\$1,500,928

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The following table summarizes the activity for the reserve for credit losses on preneed receivables for the nine months ended September 30, 2023:

	December 31, 2022	Provision for Expected Credit Losses	Write Offs	Effect of Foreign Currency and Other	September 30, 2023
(In thousands)					
Funeral	\$ (14,438)	\$ (3,379)	\$ 1,730	\$ —	\$ (16,087)
Cemetery	(12,876)	(1,728)	459	17	(14,128)
Total reserve for credit losses on preneed receivables	\$ (27,314)	\$ (5,107)	\$ 2,189	\$ 17	\$ (30,215)

The table below sets forth certain investment-related activities associated with our trusts:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(In thousands)				
Deposits	\$ 143,148	\$ 134,918	\$ 434,210	\$ 403,340
Withdrawals	\$ 135,995	\$ 120,314	\$ 404,790	\$ 366,465
Purchases of securities	\$ 420,796	\$ 389,487	\$ 1,566,090	\$ 1,293,426
Sales of securities	\$ 375,021	\$ 378,798	\$ 1,540,936	\$ 1,202,445
Realized gains from sales of securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ 51,612	\$ 53,134	\$ 205,493	\$ 274,373
Realized losses from sales of securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ (42,316)	\$ (69,442)	\$ (144,562)	\$ (150,085)

⁽¹⁾ All realized gains and losses are recognized in *Other income (expense), net* for our trust investments and are offset by a corresponding reclassification in *Other income (expense), net to Deferred receipts held in trust and Care trusts' corpus*.

The cost and market values associated with trust investments recorded at market value are detailed below. Cost reflects the investment (net of redemptions) of control holders in the trusts. Fair value represents the value of the underlying securities held by the trusts.

	Fair Value Hierarchy Level	September 30, 2023			
		Cost	Unrealized Gains	Unrealized Losses	Value
(In thousands)					
Fixed income securities:					
U.S. Treasury	2	\$ 45,888	\$ 29	\$ (1,900)	\$ 44,017
Canadian government	2	32,663	—	—	32,663
Corporate	2	164	—	(18)	146
Residential mortgage-backed	2	5,437	—	(241)	5,196
Asset-backed	2	291	—	(56)	235
Equity securities:					
Preferred stock	2	409	—	(119)	290
Common stock:					
United States	1	1,761,457	320,413	(158,404)	1,923,466
Canada	1	41,604	13,673	(2,522)	52,755
Other international	1	98,592	11,225	(12,775)	97,042
Mutual funds:					
Equity	1	903,221	85,740	(83,033)	905,928
Fixed income	1	1,025,338	251	(158,717)	866,872
Trust investments, at fair value		3,915,064	431,331	(417,785)	3,928,610
Commingled funds					
Fixed income		827,398	—	(99,689)	727,709
Equity		336,627	39,959	(6,135)	370,451
Money market funds		336,387	—	—	336,387
Alternative investments		385,833	173,479	(5,801)	553,511
Trust investments, at net asset value		1,886,245	213,438	(111,625)	1,988,058
Trust investments, at market		\$ 5,801,309	\$ 644,769	\$ (529,410)	\$ 5,916,668

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	Fair Value Hierarchy Level	December 31, 2022			
		Cost	Unrealized Gains	Unrealized Losses	Value
(In thousands)					
Fixed income securities:					
U.S. Treasury	2	\$ 45,084	\$ 22	\$ (2,033)	\$ 43,073
Canadian government	2	30,200	—	—	30,200
Corporate	2	175	—	(18)	157
Residential mortgage-backed	2	1,420	—	(101)	1,319
Asset-backed	2	294	—	(52)	242
Equity securities:					
Preferred stock	2	4,144	—	(2,340)	1,804
Common stock:					
United States	1	1,707,240	283,423	(208,523)	1,782,140
Canada	1	47,821	11,765	(11,117)	48,469
Other international	1	123,440	10,561	(19,009)	114,992
Mutual funds:					
Equity	1	917,686	64,895	(112,374)	870,207
Fixed income	1	1,135,815	1,231	(166,286)	970,760
Trust investments, at fair value		4,013,319	371,897	(521,853)	3,863,363
Commingled funds					
Fixed income		730,940	2	(89,246)	641,696
Equity		309,893	40,820	(3,846)	346,867
Money market funds		325,562	—	—	325,562
Alternative investments		307,275	179,491	(1,091)	485,675
Trust investments, at net asset value		1,673,670	220,313	(94,183)	1,799,800
Trust investments, at market		\$ 5,686,989	\$ 592,210	\$ (616,036)	\$ 5,663,163

Our alternative investments include funds invested in limited partnerships with interests in private equity, private market real estate, energy and natural resources, infrastructure, transportation, and private debt including both distressed debt and mezzanine financing. These investments can never be redeemed by the funds. Instead, due to the nature of the investments in this category, distributions are received through the liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds. The funds' managers have not communicated the timing of any liquidations.

Maturity dates of our fixed income securities range from 2023 to 2040. Maturities of fixed income securities (excluding mutual and commingled funds) at September 30, 2023 are estimated as follows:

	Fair Value
	(In thousands)
Due in one year or less	\$ 52,560
Due in one to five years	21,882
Due in five to ten years	7,722
Thereafter	93
Total estimated maturities of fixed income securities	\$ 82,257

Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our preneed trust investments was \$44.0 million and \$31.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our cemetery perpetual care trust investments was \$20.1 million and \$19.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our preneed trust investments was \$121.3 million and \$113.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Recognized trust fund income (realized

and unrealized) related to our cemetery perpetual care trust investments was \$63.5 million and \$64.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The increase in trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our preneed trust investments in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 is due in part to earnings retained related to the unclaimed property audit. Information regarding the unclaimed property audit is set forth in [Note 9](#) of this Form 10-Q.

Deferred Revenue, Net

Deferred revenue, net represents future revenue, including distributed trust investment earnings associated with unperformed trust-funded preneed contracts that are not held in trust accounts. Future revenue and net trust investment earnings that are held in trust accounts are included in *Deferred receipts held in trust*.

The components of *Deferred revenue, net* in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet were as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
Deferred revenue	\$ 2,582,448	\$ 2,472,693
Amounts due from customers for unfulfilled performance obligations on cancelable preneed contracts	(930,735)	(848,665)
<i>Deferred revenue, net</i>	\$ 1,651,713	\$ 1,624,028

The following table summarizes the activity for our contract liabilities, which are reflected in *Deferred revenue, net* and *Deferred receipts held in trust*:

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In thousands)	
Beginning balance — <i>Deferred revenue, net</i> and <i>Deferred receipts held in trust</i>	\$ 5,787,548	\$ 6,299,241
Net preneed contract sales	1,098,816	1,104,812
(Dispositions) acquisitions of businesses, net	(386)	616
Net investment gains (losses) ⁽¹⁾	167,596	(851,904)
Recognized revenue from backlog ⁽²⁾	(449,098)	(406,358)
Recognized revenue from current period sales	(504,649)	(498,086)
Change in amounts due on unfulfilled performance obligations	(78,974)	(108,360)
Change in cancellation reserve	30	(366)
Effect of foreign currency and other	(17,533)	(17,371)
Ending balance — <i>Deferred revenue, net</i> and <i>Deferred receipts held in trust</i>	\$ 6,003,350	\$ 5,522,224

⁽¹⁾ Includes both realized and unrealized investment gains (losses)

⁽²⁾ Includes current year trust fund income through the date of performance.

4. Income Taxes

Income tax expense during interim periods is based on our estimated annual effective income tax rate plus any discrete items, which are recorded in the period in which they occur. Discrete items include, among others, events such as changes in estimates due to the finalization of tax returns, tax audit settlements, expiration of statutes of limitation, and increases or decreases in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets. Our effective tax rate was 24.5% and 23.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Our effective tax rate was 24.5% and 25.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The lower effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2022 was primarily due to a change in estimate in the finalization of the 2021 tax return. The lower effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was primarily due to non-taxable gains on the cash surrender value of certain life insurance policies. The effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023 was higher than the federal statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to state tax expense.

Unrecognized Tax Benefits

As of September 30, 2023, the total amount of our unrecognized tax benefits was \$1.3 million and the total amount of our accrued interest was approximately \$1.0 million.

The federal statutes of limitation have expired for all tax years prior to 2019, and we are not currently under audit by the IRS. However, pursuant to the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the statute of limitations on the transition tax for the 2017 tax year does not expire until 2024. Various state jurisdictions are auditing years 2013 through 2021. There are currently no federal or provincial audits in Canada; however, years subsequent to 2017 remain open and could be subject to examination. We believe that it is reasonably possible that the recorded amount of gross unrecognized tax benefits may decrease by \$1.3 million within the next twelve months as a result of concluding various state tax matters.

5. Debt

The components of Debt are:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027	\$ 137,424	\$ 138,274
4.625% Senior Notes due December 2027	550,000	550,000
5.125% Senior Notes due June 2029	750,000	750,000
3.375% Senior Notes due August 2030	850,000	850,000
4.0% Senior Notes due May 2031	800,000	800,000
Term Loan due May 2024	—	536,250
Term Loan due January 2028	662,344	—
Bank Credit Facility due May 2024	—	570,000
Bank Credit Facility due January 2028	660,000	—
Obligations under finance leases	119,293	120,837
Mortgage notes and other debt, maturities through 2050	82,288	66,248
Unamortized debt issuance costs	(37,170)	(39,865)
Total debt	4,574,179	4,341,744
Less: Current maturities of long-term debt	(62,646)	(90,661)
Total long-term debt	\$ 4,511,533	\$ 4,251,083

Current maturities of debt at September 30, 2023 include amounts due under our term loan, mortgage notes and other debt, and finance lease payments due within the next year as well as the portion of unamortized debt issuance costs expected to be recognized in the next twelve months.

Approximately, 70% and 72% of our total debt had a fixed interest rate at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively.

The components of our interest rate are as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
Fixed Debt	4.33 %	4.32 %
Floating Debt	7.40 %	2.95 %
Total Debt	5.23 %	4.00 %

During the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, we paid \$149.0 million and \$98.4 million in cash interest, respectively.

Bank Credit Agreement

In January 2023, we amended our \$1.650 billion credit agreement due May 2024 to enter into a new \$2.175 billion bank credit agreement due January 2028 with a syndicate of banks. The \$2.175 billion bank credit agreement comprises a \$1.5 billion Bank Credit Facility, including a sublimit of \$100.0 million for letters of credit and a \$675.0 million Term Loan, both due January 2028. As a result of the new agreement, at closing, there was a net \$138.8 million increase in our outstanding Term Loan balance and a \$155.0 million decrease in our outstanding Bank Credit Facility balance.

The Bank Credit Facility provides us with flexibility for working capital, if needed, and is guaranteed by a majority of our domestic subsidiaries. The subsidiary guaranty is a guaranty of payment of the outstanding amount of the total lending commitment, including letters of credit. The Bank Credit Facility contains a maximum leverage ratio financial covenant and certain dividend and share repurchase restrictions. As of September 30, 2023, we were in compliance with all of our debt covenants. We have \$39.1 million of letters of credit outstanding and pay a quarterly fee on the unused commitment of 0.20% at September 30, 2023. As of September 30, 2023, we had \$800.9 million in borrowing capacity under the Bank Credit Facility. The Bank Credit Facility had an interest rate of 7.42% and 5.64% at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, respectively.

Subsequent to September 30, 2023, we increased our outstanding borrowings by \$45.0 million to \$705.0 million under our Bank Credit Facility due January 2028.

Debt Issuances and Additions

During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, we issued or added \$737.4 million of debt including:

- \$284.1 million in proceeds from certain banks in our Term Loan;
- \$380.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due January 2028;
- \$44.3 million in proceeds from certain banks in our Bank Credit Facility;
- \$10.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due May 2024; and
- \$19.0 million in other debt.

Net proceeds from newly issued debt during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 were used to pay down our Bank Credit Facility due May 2024, our Term Loan due May 2024, and for general corporate purposes. These transactions resulted in additional debt issuance costs of our \$7.5 million.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2022, we drew \$310.0 million on our Bank Credit Facility due May 2024 and issued \$15.0 million in other debt primarily for general corporate purposes.

Debt Extinguishments and Reductions

During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, we made aggregate debt payments of \$507.4 million for scheduled and early debt extinguishment payments including:

- \$199.3 million in aggregate principal payments to certain banks in our Bank Credit Facility due May 2024;
- \$145.3 million in aggregate principal payments to certain banks in our Term Loan due May 2024;
- \$145.0 million in aggregate principal of our Bank Credit Facility due January 2028;
- \$12.7 million in aggregate principal of our Term Loan due January 2028;
- \$0.9 million in aggregate principal of our 7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027 repurchased in the open market;
- \$0.5 million of premiums paid on early extinguishment of debt; and
- \$3.7 million in other debt.

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Certain of the above transactions resulted in the recognition of a loss of \$1.1 million recorded in *Losses on early extinguishment of debt* in our Consolidated Statement of Operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2023.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2022, we made aggregate debt payments of \$92.8 million for scheduled and early debt extinguishment payments including:

- \$50.0 million in aggregate principal of our Bank Credit Facility due May 2024;
- \$24.4 million in aggregate principal of our Term Loan due May 2024;
- \$14.4 million in aggregate principal of 7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027 repurchased in the open market;
- \$1.1 million of premiums paid on early extinguishment of debt; and
- \$2.9 million in other debt.

Certain of the above transactions resulted in loss of \$1.2 million recorded in *Losses on early extinguishment of debt* in our Consolidated Statement of Operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2022.

6. Credit Risk and Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair Value Estimates

The fair value estimates of the following financial instruments have been determined using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables, and trade payables approximate the fair values of those instruments due to the short-term nature of the instruments. The carrying values of receivables on preneed funeral and cemetery contracts approximate fair value as the terms and conditions of these contracts are comparable to our current contract offerings.

The fair value of our debt instruments was as follows:

	September 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
	(In thousands)	
7.5% Senior Notes due April 2027	\$ 141,890	\$ 141,499
4.625% Senior Notes due December 2027	506,550	513,909
5.125% Senior Notes due June 2029	688,275	709,125
3.375% Senior Notes due August 2030	677,645	702,202
4.0% Senior Notes due May 2031	650,720	685,680
Term Loan due May 2024	—	536,250
Term Loan due January 2028	662,344	—
Bank Credit Facility due May 2024	—	570,000
Bank Credit Facility due January 2028	660,000	—
Mortgage notes and other debt, maturities through 2050	79,715	63,168
Total fair value of debt instruments	\$ 4,067,139	\$ 3,921,833

The fair values of our long-term, fixed rate loans were estimated using market prices for those loans, and therefore they are classified within Level 2 of the fair value measurements hierarchy. The Term Loan, Bank Credit Facility, and the mortgage and other debt are classified within Level 3 of the fair value measurements hierarchy. The fair values of these instruments have been estimated using discounted cash flow analysis based on our incremental borrowing rate for similar borrowing arrangements. An increase (decrease) in the inputs results in a directionally opposite change in the fair value of the instruments.

7. Equity

(All shares reported in whole numbers)

Share Repurchase Program

Subject to market conditions, normal trading restrictions, and limitations in our debt covenants, we may make purchases of our Common stock in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions under our share repurchase program. During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, we repurchased 5,132,279 shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$343.2 million, which is an average cost per share of \$66.87. After these repurchases, the remaining dollar value of shares authorized to be purchased under the share repurchase program was \$247.4 million at September 30, 2023.

Subsequent to September 30, 2023, we repurchased 1,800,992 shares for \$99.0 million at an average cost per share of \$54.96. After these repurchases, the remaining dollar value of shares authorized to be purchased under the share repurchase program is \$148.4 million.

8. Segment Reporting

Our operations are both product-based and geographically-based, and the reportable operating segments presented below include our funeral and cemetery operations. Our geographic areas include the United States and Canada, where we conduct both funeral and cemetery operations.

Our reportable segment information, including disaggregated revenue, was as follows and includes a reconciliation of gross profit to our consolidated income before income taxes.

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(In thousands)				
Revenue from customers:				
Funeral revenue:				
Atneed revenue	\$ 282,979	\$ 291,640	\$ 884,835	\$ 931,000
Matured preneed revenue	172,272	167,427	533,678	528,122
Core funeral revenue	455,251	459,067	1,418,513	1,459,122
Non-funeral home revenue	21,949	18,150	63,651	56,694
Recognized preneed revenue	33,010	40,132	119,941	125,824
Other revenue	44,573	36,621	127,761	110,239
Total funeral revenue	554,783	553,970	1,729,866	1,751,879
Cemetery revenue:				
Atneed revenue	110,214	108,604	328,450	341,397
Recognized preneed property revenue	214,585	200,811	625,985	640,378
Recognized preneed merchandise and services revenue	93,113	85,707	269,129	255,535
Core cemetery revenue	417,912	395,122	1,223,564	1,237,310
Other revenue	29,164	28,628	90,552	91,789
Total cemetery revenue	447,076	423,750	1,314,116	1,329,099
Total revenue from customers	\$ 1,001,859	\$ 977,720	\$ 3,043,982	\$ 3,080,978
Gross profit:				
Funeral gross profit	\$ 109,747	\$ 101,844	\$ 374,750	\$ 414,456
Cemetery gross profit	143,936	129,112	429,495	460,058
Gross profit from reportable segments	253,683	230,956	804,245	874,514
Corporate general and administrative expenses	(33,213)	(41,911)	(112,294)	(129,336)
Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	2,542	14,403	10,187	15,186
Operating income	223,012	203,448	702,138	760,364
Interest expense	(61,512)	(43,508)	(174,904)	(123,107)
Losses on early extinguishment of debt	—	—	(1,114)	(1,225)
Other income (expense), net	128	(1,514)	2,647	(2,489)
Income before income taxes	\$ 161,628	\$ 158,426	\$ 528,767	\$ 633,543

Our geographic area information was as follows:

	United States	Canada	Total
	(In thousands)		
Three months ended September 30,			
Revenue from external customers:			
2023	\$ 950,750	\$ 51,109	\$ 1,001,859
2022	\$ 923,738	\$ 53,982	\$ 977,720
Nine months ended September 30,			
Revenue from external customers:			
2023	\$ 2,879,076	\$ 164,906	\$ 3,043,982
2022	\$ 2,905,975	\$ 175,003	\$ 3,080,978

9. Commitments and Contingencies

Insurance Loss Reserves

We purchase comprehensive general liability, morticians and cemetery professional liability, automobile liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage structured with high deductibles. The high-deductible insurance program means we are primarily self-insured for claims and associated costs and losses covered by these policies. As of September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022, we had self-insurance reserves of \$102.8 million and \$99.3 million, respectively.

Litigation and Regulatory Matters

We are a party to various litigation and regulatory matters, investigations, and proceedings. Some of the more frequent routine litigations incidental to our business are based on burial practices claims and employment-related matters, including discrimination, harassment, and wage and hour laws and regulations. For each of our outstanding legal matters, we evaluate the merits of the case, our exposure to the matter, possible legal or settlement strategies, and the likelihood of an unfavorable outcome. We intend to vigorously defend ourselves in the matters described herein; however, if we determine that an unfavorable outcome is probable and can be reasonably estimated, or if we determine an amount for which we would be willing to settle the matter to avoid further costs and risk, we establish the necessary accruals. We hold certain insurance policies that may reduce cash outflows with respect to an adverse outcome of these matters. We accrue such insurance recoveries when they become probable of being paid and can be reasonably estimated.

Wage and Hour Claims. We are named as a defendant in various lawsuits alleging violations of federal and state laws regulating wage and hour pay, including but not limited to the Fredeen lawsuit described below.

Lisa Fredeen, an aggrieved employee and on behalf of other aggrieved employees v. California Cemetery and Funeral Services, LLC, et al; Case No. BC706930; in the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles. This lawsuit was filed against SCI subsidiaries on May 18, 2018 and purports to be brought on behalf of the defendants' current and former non-exempt California employees during the four years preceding the filing of the complaint. This lawsuit asserts numerous claims for alleged wage and hour pay violations under the California Labor Code and the California Private Attorneys General Act. The plaintiff seeks unpaid wages, compensatory and punitive damages, civil penalties, attorneys' fees and costs, and interest. Given the nature of this lawsuit, we are unable to reasonably estimate the possible loss or ranges of loss, if any.

Operational Claims. We are named as a defendant in various lawsuits alleging operational claims, including but not limited to the State of California and Taylor lawsuits described below.

The People of the State of California v. Service Corporation International, a Texas corporation, SCI Direct, Inc. a Florida Corporation, S.E. Acquisition of California, Inc., a California corporation dba Neptune Society of Northern California, Neptune Management Corp., a California corporation, Trident Society, Inc. a California corporation, and Does 1 through 100, inclusive, Case No. RG 19045103; in the Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of Alameda. In July 2019, we received a letter from the Attorney General, State of California, Department of Justice ("CAAG") alleging that the allocation of prices among certain of our cremation service contracts and cremation merchandise contracts, and the related preneed trust funding, violates section 7735 of the California Business and Professions Code and that provisions of these same contracts constitute false advertising and deceptive sales practices in violation of California consumer protection laws. On November 21, 2019, we filed a complaint, *S.E. Combined Services of California, Inc., a California Corporation dba Neptune Society of Northern California, Neptune Management Corp. a California Corporation, and Trident Society, Inc. v. Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, and Does 1-50, Case No. 34-2019-00269617;* in the Sacramento County Superior Court seeking declaratory relief holding, in general, that our practices, methods, and documentation utilized in the sale of preneed funeral goods and services are in all respects compliant with California law. On December 2, 2019, the CAAG filed the complaint, referenced above, seeking permanent injunction from making false statements and engaging in unfair competition,

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a placement of funds into preneed trusts, civil penalties, customer refunds, attorneys' fees, and costs. While we believe our contracts comply with applicable laws, the parties have engaged in settlement discussions in an effort to resolve this dispute, which may or may not be successful. We anticipate any settlement in connection with this matter may include preneed contract refunds, governmental investigative costs, and other legal expenses.

Nancy Taylor, on behalf of herself and others similarly situated v. Service Corporation International and others, Case No. 20-cv-60709; in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, Fort Lauderdale Division. This case was filed in April 2020 as a Florida class action alleging that the allocation of prices among certain of our cremation service contracts and cremation merchandise contracts, and the related preneed trust funding, and the failure to disclose commissions paid and sales practices associated with the sale of third-party travel protection plans, violate the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act and constitute unjust enrichment. Plaintiff sought refunds; general, actual, compensatory and exemplary damages; civil penalties, interest, and attorney fees. The parties have reached a settlement of the lawsuit that included an immaterial payment of attorney fees and provided consumers enhanced cancellation rights for a period of sixty days. The impact of these enhanced cancellation rights was not material to our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows. The court has approved the settlement, the class has been certified, and the administrative claims process is now complete.

Unclaimed Property Audits

We have received notices from auditors representing the unclaimed property departments of approximately forty states regarding the escheatment of preneed trust funds held in association with unused preneed funeral and cemetery contracts ("Unused Preneed Trust Funds"). The states claim that these Unused Preneed Trust Funds are subject to the states' unclaimed property or escheatment laws and generally assert that all or a portion of the Unused Preneed Trust Funds are escheatable if the beneficiary and/or purchaser is deceased or presumed deceased and no services or merchandise have been provided. We received notice that no additional property is due to be reported for the states of Alabama, Kentucky, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and West Virginia. We consider the unclaimed property audits resolved in those ten states.

We have entered into an audit resolution agreement with the State of Florida Department of Financial Services and Division of Unclaimed Property ("Florida Agreement"). The Florida Agreement provides for the Company to retain the trust fund earnings and to escheat the principal to the State of Florida, which resulted in an increase in trust fund income in 2023.

We have reserved all of our rights, claims, and defenses. Given the nature of these matters, we are unable to reasonably estimate the total possible loss or ranges of loss, if any.

We believe we have strong defenses to these claims and we intend to vigorously defend all of the above matters; however, an adverse decision in one or more of such matters could have a material effect on us, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

10. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per common share (EPS) excludes dilution and is computed by dividing *Net income attributable to common stockholders* by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other obligations to issue common stock were exercised or converted into common stock or resulted in the issuance of common stock that shared in our earnings.

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators of basic and diluted EPS is presented below:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(In thousands, except per share amounts)				
Amounts attributable to common stockholders:				
Net income — basic and diluted	\$ 121,971	\$ 120,850	\$ 398,922	\$ 473,033
Weighted average shares:				
Weighted average shares — basic	150,630	156,781	151,654	158,921
Stock options	1,602	2,246	1,842	2,405
Restricted share units	57	73	58	72
Weighted average shares — diluted	152,289	159,100	153,554	161,398
Amounts attributable to common stockholders:				
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.77	\$ 2.63	\$ 2.98
Diluted	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.76	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.93

The computation of diluted EPS excludes outstanding stock options and restricted share units in certain periods in which the inclusion of such equity awards would be antidilutive to the periods presented. Total antidilutive options not currently included in the computation of diluted earnings per share are as follows (in shares):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(In thousands)				
Antidilutive options	891	559	313	465

11. Acquisitions and Divestiture-Related Activities

Acquisitions

We spent \$72.5 million and \$13.5 million net of cash acquired, for several business acquisitions during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and \$41.1 million and \$8.9 million, net of cash acquired, for several real estate acquisitions during the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Divestiture-Related Activities

As divestitures occur in the normal course of business, gains or losses on the sale of such locations are recognized in the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations line item *Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net*, which comprised the following:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(In thousands)				
Gains on divestitures, net	\$ 2,542	\$ 14,403	\$ 10,187	\$ 15,492
Impairment losses	—	—	—	(306)
Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	\$ 2,542	\$ 14,403	\$ 10,187	\$ 15,186

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The Company

We are North America’s largest provider of deathcare products and services, with a network of funeral service locations and cemeteries unequaled in geographic scale and reach. At September 30, 2023, we operated 1,486 funeral service locations and 489 cemeteries (including 304 funeral service/cemetery combination locations), which are geographically diversified across 44 states, eight Canadian provinces, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Our funeral and cemetery operations consist of funeral service locations, cemeteries, funeral service/cemetery combination locations, crematoria, and other related businesses, which enable us to serve a wide array of customer needs. We sell cemetery property and funeral and cemetery merchandise and services at the time of need and on a preneed basis. We strive to offer families exceptional service in planning life celebrations and personalized remembrances. Our Dignity Memorial® brand serves approximately 600,000 families each year with professionalism, compassion, and attention to detail.

Our financial position is enhanced by our \$14.4 billion backlog of future revenue from both trust and insurance-funded preneed sales at September 30, 2023. Preneed selling provides us with a strategic opportunity to gain future market share. We also believe it adds to the stability and predictability of our revenue and cash flows. While revenue on the majority of preneed merchandise and service sales is deferred until the time of need, sales of preneed cemetery property provide opportunities for full current revenue recognition to the extent that the property is developed and available for use.

We have adequate liquidity and a favorable debt maturity profile, which allow us to reinvest and grow our business as well as return capital to shareholders through share repurchases and dividends.

Factors affecting our operating results include: demographic trends in terms of population growth and average age, which impact death rates and number of deaths; establishing and maintaining leading market share positions supported by strong local heritage and relationships; effectively responding to increasing cremation trends by selling complementary services and merchandise; controlling salary and merchandise costs; and exercising pricing leverage related to our atneed revenue. The average revenue per funeral contract is influenced by the mix of traditional and cremation services because our average revenue for cremations is lower than that for traditional burials. To further enhance revenue opportunities, we continue to focus on our cremation customers' preferences and remaining relevant by developing additional memorialization merchandise and services that specifically appeal to cremation customers. We believe the presentation of these additional merchandise and services through our customer-facing technology improves our customers' experience by reducing administrative burdens and allowing them to visualize the enhanced product and service offerings, which we believe will help drive increases in the average revenue for a cremation in future periods.

For further discussion of our key operating metrics, see our "[Cash Flow](#)" and "[Results of Operations](#)" sections below.

Financial Condition, Liquidity, and Capital Resources

Capital Allocation Considerations

We rely on cash flow from operations as a significant source of liquidity. Our cash flow from operating activities provided \$591.5 million in the first nine months of 2023. As of September 30, 2023, we had \$800.9 million in remaining borrowing capacity under our Bank Credit Facility.

Our Bank Credit Facility requires us to maintain a certain leverage ratio with which we were in compliance at September 30, 2023. We target a leverage ratio of 3.5x to 4.0x.

Our leverage ratio requirement and actual ratio as of September 30, 2023 were as follows:

	Per Credit Agreement	Actual
Leverage ratio	5.00 (Max)	3.54

We have the financial strength and flexibility to reward shareholders with dividends while maintaining a prudent capital structure and pursuing new opportunities for profitable growth.

Our unencumbered cash on hand, future operating cash flows, and the available capacity under our Bank Credit Facilities will give us adequate liquidity to meet our short-term needs as well as our long-term financial obligations. A portion of our cash on hand is encumbered primarily due to cash balances residing in Canada and Puerto Rico, as well as minimum captive insurance balance and operating cash requirements.

We consistently evaluate the best uses of our cash flow that will yield the highest value and return on capital. Our capital allocation strategy is prioritized as follows:

Investing in Acquisitions and Building New Funeral Service and Cemetery Locations. We manage our footprint by focusing on strategic acquisitions and building new funeral service locations where the expected returns are attractive and exceed our weighted average cost of capital by a meaningful margin. We target businesses with favorable customer dynamics and/or where we can achieve additional economies of scale. We continue to pursue strategic acquisitions and build new funeral service locations in areas that provide us with the potential for scale.

Managing Debt. We continue to focus on maintaining optimal levels of liquidity and financial flexibility. We generate a relatively consistent annual cash flow stream that is generally resistant to down economic cycles. This cash flow stream and our significant liquidity allow us to opportunistically manage our debt maturity profile as we maintain a target leverage ratio of 3.5x to 4.0x. Bolstering our flexible capital strategy, in January 2023, we entered into a new bank credit agreement that consists of a \$675.0 million term loan due January 2028 and a revolving credit facility due January 2028 providing for borrowings of up to \$1.5 billion, an increase of \$500.0 million from our previous facility.

Return Excess Cash to Shareholders. Absent strategic acquisition or other higher return opportunities, we intend to return excess cash to shareholders. Our quarterly dividend rate has steadily grown from \$0.025 per common share in 2005 to \$0.29 per common share in 2023. We target a payout ratio of 30% to 40% of after tax earnings excluding special items and intend to grow our cash dividend commensurate with the growth in our business. While we intend to pay regular quarterly cash dividends for the foreseeable future, all future dividends are subject to limitations in our debt covenant and final determination by our Board of Directors each quarter upon review of our financial performance.

Cash Flow

Our ability to generate strong operating cash flow is one of our fundamental financial strengths and provides us with substantial flexibility in meeting operating and investing needs.

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$591.5 million and \$655.4 million for the for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. This expected decrease in operating cash flow is primarily due to \$53.2 million in lower operating income (excluding the impact from *Gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net*) as the first nine months 2022 was impacted significantly by the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$63.9 million decrease in operating cash flows from 2022 comprises:

- a \$63.0 million decrease in cash receipts from customers,
- a \$50.6 million increase in cash interest payments,
- a \$29.0 million increase in employee compensation payments, and
- a \$13.3 million increase in payments for certain legal matters that were expensed in the prior year, partially offset by
 - a \$62.5 million decrease in cash tax payments which is primarily related to a change in tax accounting method for our cemetery segment and will defer cash taxes into future years,
 - a \$12.4 million increase in General Agency (GA) commission and other receipts,
 - a \$9.4 million decrease in vendor and other payments, and
 - a \$7.7 million increase in net trust withdrawals.

Investing Activities

Cash flows from investing activities used \$356.6 million and \$244.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The \$112.4 million increased outflow in 2023 over 2022 is primarily due to the following:

- a \$59.0 million increase in cash spent on business acquisitions,
- a \$32.2 million increase in cash spent on real estate acquisitions,
- a \$15.0 million increase in total capital expenditures which comprises:
 - \$16.4 million increase in maintenance capital expenditures:
 - a \$35.9 million increase in expenditures for cemetery property development,
 - a \$30.2 million decrease in expenditures for capital improvements at existing field locations,
 - a \$10.7 million increase in expenditures for digital investments and corporate, partially offset by
 - a \$1.4 million decrease in expenditures for growth capital expenditures/construction of new funeral service locations

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- a \$8.7 million decrease in cash receipts from divestitures and asset sales, and
- a \$1.3 million decrease in proceeds from sale of investments, partially offset by
 - a \$3.8 million increase in proceeds for Company-owned life insurance policies, net of repayments.

Financing Activities

Financing activities used \$262.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to using \$496.6 million for the same period in 2022. The \$234.4 million decreased outflow from 2023 over 2022 is primarily due to the following:

- a \$246.3 million decrease in purchase of Company common stock, and
- a \$4.4 million change in bank overdrafts and other, partially offset by
 - a \$8.5 million increase in debt repayments, net of proceeds,
 - a \$7.1 million increase in payments of dividends, and
 - a \$0.7 million decrease in proceeds from exercises of stock options.

Financial Assurances

In support of our operations, we have entered into arrangements with certain surety companies whereby such companies agree to issue surety bonds on our behalf as financial assurance and/or as required by existing state and local regulations. The surety bonds are used for various business purposes; however, the majority of the surety bonds issued and outstanding have been used to support our preneed sales activities. The obligations underlying these surety bonds are recorded on our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as *Deferred revenue, net*. The breakdown of surety bonds between funeral and cemetery preneed arrangements, as well as surety bonds for other activities, is described below.

	September 30, 2023		December 31, 2022	
	(In millions)			
Preneed funeral	\$	67.8	\$	68.4
Preneed cemetery:				
Merchandise and services		141.3		141.5
Pre-construction		52.4		42.5
Bonds supporting preneed funeral and cemetery obligations		261.5		252.4
Bonds supporting preneed business permits		7.6		7.1
Other bonds		25.0		23.9
Total surety bonds outstanding	\$	294.1	\$	283.4

When selling preneed contracts, we may post surety bonds where allowed by state law. We post the surety bonds in lieu of trusting a certain amount of funds received from the customer. The amount of the bond posted is generally determined by the total amount of the preneed contract that would otherwise be required to be trusted, in accordance with applicable state law.

Surety bond premiums are paid annually and the bonds are automatically renewable until maturity of the underlying preneed contracts, unless we are given prior notice of cancellation.

Except for cemetery pre-construction bonds (which are irrevocable), the surety companies generally have the right to cancel the surety bonds at any time with appropriate notice. In the event a surety company were to cancel the surety bond, we are required to obtain replacement surety assurance from another surety company or fund a trust for an amount generally less than the posted bond amount. Management does not expect that we will be required to fund material future amounts related to these surety bonds due to a lack of surety capacity or surety company non-performance.

Preneed Activities and Backlog of Contracts

In addition to selling our products and services to client families at the time of need, we enter into price-guaranteed preneed contracts, which provide for future funeral or cemetery merchandise and services. Because preneed funeral and cemetery merchandise and services will generally not be provided until sometime in the future, most states and provinces require that all or a portion of the funds collected from customers on preneed contracts be deposited into merchandise and service trusts until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. In certain situations, as described above, where permitted by state or provincial laws, we may post a surety bond as financial assurance for a certain amount of the preneed contract in lieu of placing funds into trust accounts. Alternatively, we may sell a life insurance or annuity policy from third-party insurance companies.

Insurance-Funded Preneed Contracts

Where permitted by state or provincial law, we may sell a life insurance or annuity policy from third-party insurance companies, for which we earn a commission as general sales agent for the insurance company. These general agency revenues are based on a percentage per contract sold and are recognized as funeral revenue when the insurance purchase transaction between the preneed purchaser and third-party insurance provider is complete. All selling costs incurred pursuant to the sale of insurance-funded preneed contracts are expensed as incurred. We do not reflect the unfulfilled insurance-funded preneed contract amounts in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet. The proceeds of the life insurance policies or annuity contracts will be reflected in funeral revenue as we perform these funerals.

The table below details our results of insurance-funded preneed production and maturities.

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(Dollars in millions)				
Preneed insurance-funded:				
Sales production ⁽¹⁾	\$ 176.1	\$ 170.0	\$ 537.4	\$ 508.3
Sales production (number of contracts) ⁽¹⁾	28,284	27,864	87,128	82,710
General agency revenue	\$ 49.0	\$ 41.6	\$ 139.8	\$ 126.4
Maturities	\$ 93.0	\$ 93.8	\$ 291.5	\$ 296.8
Maturities (number of contracts)	15,005	15,459	47,202	48,737

⁽¹⁾ Amounts are not included in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

Trust-Funded Preneed Contracts

The funds collected from customers and required by state or provincial law are deposited into trusts. We retain any funds above the amounts required to be deposited into trust accounts and use them for working capital purposes, generally to offset the selling and administrative costs of our preneed programs. Although this represents cash flow to us, the associated revenues are deferred until the merchandise is delivered or services are performed (typically at maturity). The funds in trust are then invested by professional money managers with oversight by independent trustees in accordance with state and provincial laws.

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The tables below detail our results of preneed production and maturities, excluding insurance contracts:

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
(Dollars in millions)				
Funeral:				
Preneed trust-funded (including bonded):				
Sales production	\$ 138.4	\$ 125.9	\$ 418.2	\$ 387.5
Sales production (number of contracts)	33,782	30,505	102,881	96,922
Maturities	\$ 93.0	\$ 84.5	\$ 280.6	\$ 265.4
Maturities (number of contracts)	20,072	20,185	63,230	62,904
Cemetery:				
Sales production:				
Preneed	\$ 322.2	\$ 341.5	\$ 981.5	\$ 1,055.1
Atneed	103.1	106.1	317.9	346.4
Total sales production	\$ 425.3	\$ 447.6	\$ 1,299.4	\$ 1,401.5
Sales production deferred to backlog:				
Preneed	\$ 162.0	\$ 161.6	\$ 486.8	\$ 511.1
Atneed	72.1	74.4	224.6	241.6
Total sales production deferred to backlog	\$ 234.1	\$ 236.0	\$ 711.4	\$ 752.7
Revenue recognized from backlog:				
Preneed	\$ 132.3	\$ 101.8	\$ 356.5	\$ 310.3
Atneed	78.2	76.3	233.2	234.6
Total revenue recognized from backlog	\$ 210.5	\$ 178.1	\$ 589.7	\$ 544.9

Backlog of Preneed Contracts

The following table reflects our backlog of trust-funded deferred preneed contract revenue, including amounts related to deferred receipts held in trust at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022. Additionally, the table reflects our backlog of unfulfilled insurance-funded contracts (which are not included in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet) at September 30, 2023 and December 31, 2022. The backlog amounts presented include amounts due from customers for undelivered performance obligations on cancelable preneed contracts to arrive at our total backlog of deferred revenue. The table does not include the backlog associated with businesses that are held for sale.

The table also reflects our preneed receivables and trust investments associated with the backlog of deferred preneed contract revenue, including the amounts due from customers for undelivered performance obligations on cancelable preneed contracts. We believe that the table below is meaningful because it sets forth the aggregate amount of future revenue we expect to recognize as a result of preneed sales, as well as the amount of funds associated with this revenue. Because the future revenue exceeds the assets, future revenue will exceed the cash distributions actually received from the associated trusts and future collections from the customer.

	September 30, 2023		December 31, 2022	
	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	Cost
	(In billions)			
Deferred revenue, net	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.62	\$ 1.62
Amounts due from customers for unfulfilled performance obligations on cancelable preneed contracts	0.93	0.93	0.85	0.85
Deferred receipts held in trust	4.35	4.20	4.16	4.12
Allowance for cancellation on trust investments	(0.25)	(0.24)	(0.24)	(0.23)
Backlog of trust-funded deferred revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation	6.68	6.54	6.39	6.36
Backlog of insurance-funded revenue ⁽¹⁾	7.70	7.70	7.35	7.35
Total backlog of deferred revenue	\$ 14.38	\$ 14.24	\$ 13.74	\$ 13.71
Preneed receivables, net and trust investments	\$ 5.83	\$ 5.68	\$ 5.58	\$ 5.54
Amounts due from customers for unfulfilled performance obligations on cancelable preneed contracts	0.93	0.93	0.85	0.85
Allowance for cancellation on trust investments	(0.25)	(0.24)	(0.24)	(0.23)
Assets associated with backlog of trust-funded deferred revenue, net of estimated allowance for cancellation	6.51	6.37	6.19	6.16
Insurance policies associated with insurance-funded deferred revenue ⁽¹⁾	7.70	7.70	7.35	7.35
Total assets associated with backlog of preneed revenue	\$ 14.21	\$ 14.07	\$ 13.54	\$ 13.51

⁽¹⁾ Amounts are not included in our unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet.

The fair value of our trust investments was based on a combination of quoted market prices, observable inputs such as interest rates or yield curves, and appraisals. As of September 30, 2023, the difference between the backlog and asset market amounts represents \$0.19 billion related to contracts for which we have posted surety bonds as financial assurance in lieu of trusting, \$1.29 billion collected from customers that were not required to be deposited into trusts, and \$0.16 billion in allowable cash distributions from trust assets partially offset by \$1.47 billion in amounts due on delivered property and merchandise. As of September 30, 2023, the fair value of the total backlog comprised \$4.00 billion related to cemetery contracts and \$10.38 billion related to funeral contracts. As of September 30, 2023, the fair value of the assets associated with the backlog of trust-funded deferred revenue comprised \$4.02 billion related to cemetery contracts and \$2.49 billion related to funeral contracts. As of September 30, 2023, the backlog of insurance-funded contracts of \$7.70 billion was equal to the proceeds we expect to receive from the associated insurance policies when the corresponding contract is serviced.

Trust Investments

In addition to selling our products and services to client families at the time of need, we enter into price-guaranteed preneed funeral and cemetery contracts, which provide for future funeral or cemetery merchandise and services. Since preneed funeral and cemetery merchandise or services will generally not be provided until sometime in the future, most states and provinces require that all or a portion of the funds collected from customers on preneed funeral and cemetery contracts be paid into trusts and/or escrow accounts until the merchandise is delivered or the service is performed. Investment earnings associated with the trust investments are expected to mitigate the inflationary costs of providing the preneed funeral and cemetery merchandise and services in the future at the prices that were guaranteed at the time of sale. Also, we are required by state and provincial law to pay a portion of the proceeds from the preneed or atneed sale of cemetery property interment rights into perpetual care trusts. For these investments, the original corpus generally remains in the trust in perpetuity and the earnings or elected distributions are withdrawn as allowed to defray the expenses to maintain the cemetery property. While many states require that net capital gains or losses be retained and added to the corpus, certain states allow the net realized capital gains and losses to be included in the earnings that are distributed. Additionally, some states allow a total return distribution that may contain elements of income, capital appreciation, and principal.

Independent trustees manage and invest the majority of the funds deposited into the funeral and cemetery merchandise and service trusts as well as the cemetery perpetual care trusts. The majority of the trustees are selected based on their respective geographic footprint and qualifications per state and provincial regulations. Most of the trustees engage the same independent investment managers. These trustees, with input from SCI's wholly-owned registered investment advisor, establish an investment policy that serves as an operating document to guide the investment activities of the trusts including asset allocation and manager selection. The investments are also governed by state and provincial guidelines. All of the trusts

PART I

seek to control risk and volatility through a combination of asset classes, investment styles, and a diverse mix of investment managers.

Asset allocation is based on the liability structure of each funeral, cemetery, and perpetual care trust. Based on the various criteria set forth in the investment policy, the investment advisor recommends investment managers to the trustees. The primary investment objectives for the funeral and cemetery merchandise and service trusts include 1) preserving capital within acceptable levels of volatility and risk and 2) achieving growth of principal over time sufficient to preserve and increase the purchasing power of the assets. Preneed funeral and cemetery contracts generally take several years to mature; therefore, the funds associated with these contracts are often invested through several market cycles.

Where allowed by state and provincial regulations, the cemetery perpetual care trusts' primary investment objectives are growth-oriented to provide for a fixed distribution rate from the trusts' assets. Where such distributions are limited to ordinary income, the cemetery perpetual care trusts' investment objectives emphasize providing a steady stream of current investment income with some capital appreciation. Both types of distributions are used to provide for the current and future maintenance and beautification of the cemetery properties.

As of September 30, 2023, approximately 95% of our trusts were under the control and custody of five large financial institutions. The U.S. trustees primarily use four managed limited liability companies (LLCs), one for each merchandise and service trust type and two for the cemetery perpetual care trust type, each with an independent trustee as custodian. Each financial institution acting as trustee manages its allocation of trust assets in accordance with the investment policy through the purchase of the appropriate LLCs' units. For those accounts not eligible for participation in the LLCs or where a particular state's regulations contain other investment restrictions, the trustee utilizes institutional mutual funds that comply with our investment policy or with such state restrictions. The U.S. trusts include a modest allocation to alternative investments. These alternative investments are held in vehicles structured as LLCs and are managed by certain trustees. The trusts that are eligible to allocate a portion of their investments to alternative investments purchase units of the respective alternative investment LLCs.

Investment Structures

The managed LLCs use the following structures for investments:

Commingled funds allow the trusts to access, at a reduced cost, some of the same investment managers and strategies used elsewhere in the portfolios.

Mutual funds employ institutional share class mutual funds where operationally or economically efficient. These mutual funds are utilized to invest in various asset classes including U.S. equities, non-U.S. equities, corporate bonds, government bonds, high yield bonds, and commodities, all of which are governed by guidelines outlined in their individual prospectuses.

Separately managed accounts are trusts that utilize separately managed accounts, where appropriate, to reduce the costs to the investment portfolios.

Asset Classes

Equity investments have historically provided long-term capital appreciation in excess of inflation. The trusts have direct investments in individual equity securities primarily in domestic equity portfolios that include large, mid, and small capitalization companies of different investment styles (i.e., growth and value). The majority of the equity allocation is managed by institutional investment managers that specialize in an objective-specific area of expertise. Our equity securities are exposed to market risk; however, we believe these securities are well-diversified. As of September 30, 2023, the largest single equity position represented 1% of the total securities portfolio.

Fixed income investments are intended to preserve principal, provide a source of current income, and reduce overall portfolio volatility. The majority of the fixed income allocation for the trusts is invested in institutional share class mutual funds. Where the trusts have direct investments in individual fixed income securities, these are primarily in government and corporate instruments.

Canadian government fixed income securities are investments in Canadian federal and provincial government instruments. In many cases, regulatory restrictions mandate that the funds from the sales of preneed funeral and cemetery contracts sold in certain Canadian jurisdictions must be invested in these instruments.

Alternative investments serve to provide high rates of return with reduced volatility and lower correlation to publicly-traded securities. These investments are typically longer term in duration and are diversified by strategy, sector, manager, geography, and vintage year. The investments consist of numerous limited partnerships invested in private equity, private market real estate, energy and natural resources, infrastructure, transportation, and private debt including both distressed debt and mezzanine financing. The trustees that have oversight of their respective alternative LLCs work closely with the investment advisor in making all investment decisions.

Trust Performance

During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, the Standard and Poor's 500 Index increased 13.1% and the Bloomberg's US Aggregate Bond Index decreased 1.2%. This compares to SCI trusts that increased 6.4% during the same period, which exceeded our internal custom benchmark. The SCI trusts have a diversified allocation of approximately 57% equities, 28% fixed income securities, 10% alternative and other investments with the remaining 5% available in money market funds.

Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our preneed trust investments was \$121.3 million and \$113.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Recognized trust fund income (realized and unrealized) related to our cemetery perpetual care trust investments was \$63.5 million and \$64.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The increase in recognized trust fund income is due in part to earnings retained related to the unclaimed property audit. Information regarding the unclaimed property audit is set forth in Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements, [Note 9](#) of this Form 10-Q.

SCI, the trustees, and the investment advisor monitor the capital markets and the trusts on an on-going basis. The trustees, with input from the investment advisor, take prudent action as needed to achieve the investment goals and objectives of the trusts.

Results of Operations — Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

Three Months Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

Management Summary

In the third quarter of 2023, we reported consolidated net income attributable to common stockholders of \$122.0 million (\$0.80 per diluted share) compared to net income attributable to common stockholders in the third quarter of 2022 of \$120.9 million (\$0.76 per diluted share). These results were impacted by certain items including:

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In millions)	
Pre-tax gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	\$ 2.5	\$ 14.4
Tax effect from above item	\$ (0.5)	\$ (3.4)
Change in uncertain tax reserves and other	\$ 0.9	\$ 1.1

In addition to the above items, the increase from the prior year is primarily related to higher cemetery revenue combined with lower fixed costs resulting in higher gross profit. Additionally, lower corporate general and administrative expenses combined with a lower share count offset the impact of higher interest expense.

PART I

Funeral Results

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(Dollars in millions, except average revenue per service)	
Consolidated funeral revenue	\$ 554.8	\$ 554.0
Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction	9.3	1.8
Less: revenue associated with divestitures	1.2	0.5
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ funeral revenue	544.3	551.7
Less: comparable recognized preneed revenue	32.3	40.1
Less: comparable general agency and other revenue	44.0	36.6
Adjusted comparable funeral revenue	\$ 468.0	\$ 475.0
Comparable services performed	83,004	87,569
Comparable average revenue per service ⁽²⁾	\$ 5,638	\$ 5,424
Consolidated funeral gross profit	\$ 109.7	\$ 101.8
Less: gross profit associated with acquisitions/new construction	0.3	0.4
Less: gross losses associated with divestitures	0.9	(1.3)
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ funeral gross profit	\$ 108.5	\$ 102.7

⁽¹⁾ We define comparable (or same store) operations as those funeral locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

⁽²⁾ We calculate comparable average revenue per service by dividing comparable funeral revenue, excluding general agency revenue, recognized preneed revenue, and other revenue to avoid distorting our average of normal funeral services revenue, by the comparable number of funeral services performed during the period. Recognized preneed revenue is excluded from our calculation of comparable average revenue per service because the associated service has not yet been performed.

Funeral Revenue

Consolidated revenue from funeral operations was \$554.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to \$554.0 million for the same period in 2022. This \$0.8 million increase is primarily attributable to the \$7.5 million increase in revenue from acquired and newly constructed properties, partially offset by the \$7.4 million decrease in comparable revenue.

Comparable revenue from funeral operations was \$544.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to \$551.7 million for the same period in 2022. This \$7.4 million, or 1.3%, decrease was primarily driven by a \$10.2 million, or 2.2%, decrease in core funeral revenue combined with a \$7.8 million decrease in recognized preneed revenue. These decreases were partially offset by a \$7.4 million increase in other revenue. Other revenue increased due to higher general agency revenue primarily as a result of 4.9% growth in preneed sales production.

The core funeral revenue decrease of \$10.2 million is primarily due to a decline in core funeral services performed of 6.2% partially offset by growth in the core average revenue per service of 4.3%. This core average growth was achieved despite a 120 basis point increase in the core cremation rate. The core average growth is primarily driven by consumer preferences for enhanced product and service offerings as well as an increase in trust fund income.

Funeral Gross Profit

Consolidated funeral gross profit increased \$7.9 million, or 7.8%, for the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to 2022. This increase is primarily attributable to the increase in comparable funeral gross profit of \$5.8 million, or 5.6%. Comparable funeral gross profit increased \$5.8 million to \$108.5 million and the comparable gross profit percentage increased from 18.6% to 19.9%. This increase is primarily due to lower fixed costs and reduced incentive compensation costs this quarter compared with the prior year quarter.

Cemetery Results

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In millions)	
Consolidated cemetery revenue	\$ 447.1	\$ 423.8
Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction	1.5	0.1
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ cemetery revenue	\$ 445.6	\$ 423.7
Consolidated cemetery gross profit	\$ 143.9	\$ 129.1
Less: gross (loss) associated with acquisitions/new construction	(0.4)	(0.2)
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ cemetery gross profit	\$ 144.3	\$ 129.3

⁽¹⁾ We define comparable (or same store) operations as those cemetery locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

Cemetery Revenue

Consolidated revenue from our cemetery operations increased \$23.3 million, or 5.5%, for the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 primarily due to a \$21.9 million increase in comparable cemetery revenue.

The \$21.9 million, or 5.2%, increase in comparable cemetery revenue was primarily as a result of a \$20.9 million increase in total recognized preneed revenue. This increase was primarily due to revenue recognition from an expected increase in completed construction projects in the third quarter coupled with higher trust fund income.

Cemetery Gross Profit

Consolidated cemetery gross profit increased \$14.8 million, or 11.5%, in the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, which is primarily attributable to the increase in comparable cemetery gross profit of \$15.0 million, or 11.6%. Comparable cemetery gross profit increased \$15.0 million to \$144.3 million, and the gross profit percentage increased to 32.4% from 30.5% primarily due to the growth in revenue mentioned above coupled with lower incentive compensation costs this quarter compared with the prior year.

Other Financial Statement Items

Corporate General and Administrative Expenses

Corporate general and administrative expenses decreased \$8.7 million to \$33.2 million for the third quarter of 2023 compared to the third quarter of 2022 related to a lower incentive compensation costs versus the prior year quarter.

Gains on Divestitures and Impairment Charges, Net

We recognized a \$2.5 million net pre-tax gain on asset divestitures and impairments in the third quarter of 2023 compared to a \$14.4 million net pre-tax gain in the third quarter of 2022 on asset divestitures associated with non-strategic funeral and cemetery locations in the United States and Canada.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased \$18.0 million to \$61.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 due to higher interest on our floating rate debt. During the third quarter of 2023, our floating rate debt carried a weighted average rate of 7.5%, which is over 400 basis points higher than the weighted average rate for our floating rate debt in the third quarter of 2022.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate was 24.5% and 23.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The lower effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2022 was primarily due to a change in estimate in the finalization of the 2021 tax return. The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2023 was higher than the federal statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to state tax expense.

Weighted Average Shares

The diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding was 152.3 million for the three months ended September 30, 2023 compared to 159.1 million for the same period in 2022. The decrease primarily reflects the impact of shares repurchased under our share repurchase program.

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

Management Summary

In the first nine months of 2023, we reported consolidated net income attributable to common stockholders of \$398.9 million (\$2.60 per diluted share) compared to net income attributable to common stockholders for the same period in 2022 of \$473.0 million (\$2.93 per diluted share). These results were impacted by certain items including:

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In millions)	
Pre-tax gains on divestitures and impairment charges, net	\$ 10.2	\$ 15.2
Pre-tax loss on early extinguishment of debt	\$ (1.1)	\$ (1.2)
Pre-tax foreign currency exchange loss	\$ —	\$ (1.5)
Tax effect from above items	\$ (2.5)	\$ (3.3)
Change in uncertain tax reserves and other	\$ 1.4	\$ 0.2

In addition to the above items, the decrease from the prior year is primarily due to an expected decline in gross profit related to decreases in COVID-19 related activity. Additionally, fewer shares outstanding and a lower tax rate helped to offset the impact of higher interest expense primarily due to rising interest rates.

Funeral Results

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(Dollars in millions, except average revenue per service)	
Consolidated funeral revenue	\$ 1,729.9	\$ 1,751.9
Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction	23.1	2.5
Less: revenue associated with divestitures	2.2	2.4
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ funeral revenue	1,704.6	1,747.0
Less: comparable recognized preneed revenue	118.7	125.8
Less: comparable general agency and other revenue	126.3	110.0
Adjusted comparable funeral revenue	\$ 1,459.6	\$ 1,511.2
Comparable services performed	262,641	279,130
Comparable average revenue per service ⁽²⁾	\$ 5,557	\$ 5,414
Consolidated funeral gross profit	\$ 374.8	\$ 414.5
Less: gross profit associated with acquisitions/new construction	2.1	0.8
Less: gross losses associated with divestitures	0.3	(2.5)
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ funeral gross profit	\$ 372.4	\$ 416.2

⁽¹⁾ We define comparable (or same store) operations as those funeral locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

⁽²⁾ We calculate comparable average revenue per service by dividing comparable funeral revenue, excluding general agency revenue, recognized preneed revenue, and other revenue to avoid distorting our average of normal funeral services revenue, by the comparable number of funeral services performed during the period. Recognized preneed revenue is preneed sales of merchandise that are delivered at the time of sale, including memorial merchandise and travel protection, net, and excluded from our calculation of comparable average revenue per service because the associated service has not yet been performed.

Funeral Revenue

Consolidated revenue from funeral operations was \$1,729.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023, compared to \$1,751.9 million for the same period in 2022. This \$22.0 million decrease is primarily attributable to a \$42.4 million decrease in comparable revenue as described below and offset by \$20.6 million of growth in revenue contributed by acquired and newly constructed properties.

Comparable revenue from funeral operations was \$1,704.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to \$1,747.0 million for the same period in 2022. This \$42.4 million, or 2.4%, decrease was primarily driven by the decrease in

core funeral revenue of \$57.2 million as the prior year was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic combined with lower recognized preneed revenue. This decrease was partially offset by a \$16.3 million increase in comparable general agency and other revenue. The growth in general agency revenue is primarily the result of a 5.6% increase in our comparable preneed funeral sales production.

The core revenue decrease of \$57.2 million, or 3.9%, is due to the decline in core funeral services performed of 7.3%, offset by the growth in the core average revenue per service of 3.6%. This core average growth was achieved despite a 150 basis point increase in the core cremation rate and is primarily driven by consumer preferences for enhanced product and service offerings as well as an increase in trust fund income.

Funeral Gross Profit

Consolidated funeral gross profit decreased \$39.7 million, or 9.6%, in the first nine months of 2023 compared to 2022. This decrease is primarily attributable to the \$43.8 million, or 10.5%, decrease in comparable funeral gross profit. Comparable funeral gross profit decreased \$43.8 million to \$372.4 million and the comparable gross profit percentage decreased from 23.8% to 21.8%. This decrease in gross profit is due to the expected decline in revenue mentioned above combined with higher selling costs on higher preneed insurance sales production during the current year.

Cemetery Results

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2023	2022
	(In millions)	
Consolidated cemetery revenue	\$ 1,314.1	\$ 1,329.1
Less: revenue associated with acquisitions/new construction	2.8	—
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ cemetery revenue	\$ 1,311.3	\$ 1,329.1
Consolidated cemetery gross profit	\$ 429.5	\$ 460.1
Less: gross losses associated with acquisitions/new construction	(1.3)	(0.5)
Comparable ⁽¹⁾ cemetery gross profit	\$ 430.8	\$ 460.6

⁽¹⁾ We define comparable (or same store) operations as those cemetery locations owned by us for the entire period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

Cemetery Revenue

Consolidated revenue from our cemetery operations decreased \$15.0 million, or 1.1%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to the same period in 2022 primarily due to a \$17.8 million, or 1.3%, decrease in comparable cemetery revenue partially offset by a \$2.8 million increase in revenue contributed by newly constructed and acquired properties.

The \$17.8 million, or 1.3%, decrease in comparable cemetery revenue was primarily attributable to a \$16.4 million decrease in comparable cemetery core revenue. This decline was primarily a result of a \$14.6 million decrease in atneed revenue as the prior year was more heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognized preneed revenue decreased \$1.8 million as a result of an 8.5% decline in preneed property production, offset by revenue recognition from an expected increase in completed construction projects and merchandise deliveries. Comparable other revenue also decreased \$1.4 million, or 1.5%, compared to the prior year quarter primarily from a decrease in endowment care trust fund income due to the timing of capital gains.

Cemetery Gross Profit

Consolidated cemetery gross profit decreased \$30.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to the same period in 2022, which is primarily attributable to the decrease in comparable cemetery gross profit of \$29.8 million. Comparable cemetery gross profit decreased \$29.8 million to \$430.8 million, and the gross profit percentage decreased from 34.7% to 32.9%. The decrease in gross profit is due to the decline in revenue mentioned above combined with higher selling costs and higher property and merchandise costs as the mix of sales recognized incurred higher costs compared to prior year.

Other Financial Statement Items

Corporate General and Administrative Expenses

Corporate general and administrative expenses decreased \$17.0 million to \$112.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 primarily due to lower incentive compensation costs versus prior year.

Gains on Divestitures and Impairment Charges, Net

We recognized a \$10.2 million net pre-tax gain on asset divestitures and impairments in the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to a \$15.2 million pre-tax gain on asset divestitures in the nine months ended September 30, 2022 associated with the disposition of non-strategic funeral and cemetery locations in the United States and Canada.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased \$51.8 million to \$174.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 primarily due to higher interest on our floating rate debt. During the nine months ended September 30, 2023, our floating rate debt carried a weighted average rate of 6.9%, which is over 450 basis points higher than the weighted average rate for our floating rate debt in the first nine months of 2022.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our effective tax rate was 24.5% and 25.2% for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The lower effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was primarily due to non-taxable gains on the cash surrender value of certain life insurance policies. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 was higher than the federal statutory tax rate of 21.0% primarily due to state tax expense.

Weighted Average Shares

The diluted weighted average number of shares outstanding was 153.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 compared to 161.4 million for the same period in 2022. The decrease primarily reflects the impact of shares repurchased under our share repurchase program.

Critical Accounting Policies, Recent Accounting Pronouncements, and Accounting Changes

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Although we base our estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, actual results may differ from the estimates on which our financial statements are prepared at any given point of time. Changes in these estimates could materially affect our consolidated financial position, consolidated results of operations, or cash flows. Significant items that are subject to such estimates and assumptions include revenue and expense accruals, fair value of merchandise and perpetual care trust assets, and the allocation of purchase price to the fair value of assets acquired. Our critical accounting policies have not significantly changed since December 31, 2022 and are disclosed in our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements and Accounting Changes

For discussion of recent accounting pronouncements and accounting changes, see Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements, [Note 2](#) of this Form 10-Q.

Cautionary Statement on Forward-Looking Statements

The statements in this Form 10-Q that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made in reliance on the safe harbor protections provided under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be accompanied by words such as "believe", "estimate", "project", "expect", "anticipate", "predict" that convey the uncertainty of future events or outcomes. These statements are based on assumptions that we believe are reasonable; however, many important factors could cause our actual consolidated results in the future to differ materially from the forward-looking statements made herein and in any other documents or oral presentations made by, or on behalf of, the Company. These factors are discussed below. We assume no obligation and make no undertaking to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements made herein or any other forward-looking statements made by the Company, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

- Our affiliated trust funds own investments in securities, which are affected by market conditions that are beyond our control.
- We may be required to replenish our affiliated funeral and cemetery trust funds to meet minimum funding requirements, which would have a negative effect on our earnings and cash flow.
- Our ability to execute our strategic plan depends on many factors, some of which are beyond our control.
- We may be adversely affected by the effects of inflation.

- Our results may be adversely affected by significant weather events, natural disasters, catastrophic events or public health crises.
- Our credit agreements contain covenants that may prevent us from engaging in certain transactions.
- If we lost the ability to use surety bonding to support our preneed activities, we may be required to make material cash payments to fund certain trust funds.
- Increasing death benefits related to preneed contracts funded through life insurance or annuity contracts may not cover future increases in the cost of providing a price-guaranteed service.
- The financial condition of third-party life insurance companies that fund our preneed contracts may impact our future revenue.
- Unfavorable publicity could affect our reputation and business.
- Our failure to attract and retain qualified sales personnel could have an adverse effect on our business and financial condition.
- We use a combination of insurance, self-insurance, and large deductibles in managing our exposure to certain inherent risks; therefore, we could be exposed to unexpected costs that could negatively affect our financial performance.
- Declines in overall economic conditions beyond our control could reduce future potential earnings and cash flows and could result in future impairments to goodwill and/or other intangible assets.
- Any failure to maintain the security of the information relating to our customers, their loved ones, our associates, and our vendors could damage our reputation, could cause us to incur substantial additional costs and to become subject to litigation, and could adversely affect our operating results, financial condition, or cash flow.
- Our Canadian business exposes us to operational, economic, and currency risks.
- Our level of indebtedness could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry, and may prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under our indebtedness.
- A failure of a key information technology system or process could disrupt and adversely affect our business.
- Failure to maintain effective internal control over financial reporting could adversely affect our results of operations, investor confidence, and our stock price.
- The funeral and cemetery industry is competitive.
- If the number of deaths in our markets declines, our cash flows and revenue may decrease. Changes in the number of deaths are not predictable from market to market or over the short term.
- If we are not able to respond effectively to changing consumer preferences, our market share, revenue, and/or profitability could decrease.
- The continuing upward trend in the number of cremations performed in North America could result in lower revenue, operating profit, and cash flows.
- Our funeral and cemetery businesses are high fixed-cost businesses.
- Risks associated with our supply chain could materially adversely affect our financial performance.
- Regulation and compliance could have a material adverse impact on our financial results.
- Unfavorable results of litigation could have a material adverse impact on our financial statements.
- Cemetery burial practice claims could have a material adverse impact on our financial results.
- The application of unclaimed property laws by certain states to our preneed funeral and cemetery backlog could have a material adverse impact on our liquidity, cash flows, and financial results.
- Changes in taxation as well as the inherent difficulty in quantifying potential tax effects of business decisions could have a material adverse effect on the results of our operations, financial condition, or cash flows.

For further information on these and other risks and uncertainties, see our Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including our 2022 Annual Report on Form 10-K. Copies of this document as well as other SEC filings can be obtained from our website at www.sci-corp.com. We assume no obligation and make no undertaking to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements made herein or any other forward-looking statements made by us whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The primary objective of the following information is to provide forward-looking quantitative and qualitative information about our potential exposure to market risks. The term "market" risk refers to the risk of gains or losses arising from changes in interest rates and prices of marketable securities. The disclosures are not meant to be precise indicators of expected future gains or losses, but rather indicators of reasonably possible gains or losses. This forward-looking information provides indicators of how we view and manage our ongoing market risk exposures. All of our market risk-sensitive instruments were entered into for purposes other than trading.

Marketable Equity and Debt Securities — Price Risk

In connection with our preneed operations and sales, the related trust funds own investments in equity and debt securities and mutual funds, which are sensitive to current market prices. Cost and market values as of September 30, 2023 are presented in Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements, [Note 3](#) of this Form 10-Q. Also, see Item 2, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations "Financial Condition, Liquidity and Capital Resources" section for discussion of trust investments.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of September 30, 2023, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act)). Our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reports we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time period specified by the SEC's rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including our CEO and CFO, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on our evaluation, our CEO and CFO have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of September 30, 2023 and that the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q fairly present, in all material respects, our consolidated financial condition, consolidated results of operations, and cash flows for the periods presented in conformity with US GAAP.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended September 30, 2023 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Information regarding legal proceedings is set forth in Part I, Item 1. Financial Statements, [Note 9](#) of this Form 10-Q, which information is hereby incorporated by reference herein.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes in our Risk Factors as set forth in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

The following table summarizes our share repurchases during the three months ended September 30, 2023:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Programs	Approximate Dollar Value of Shares That May Yet be Purchased Under the Program
July 1, 2023 — July 31, 2023 ⁽¹⁾	77,292	\$ 65.00	76,602	\$ 330,511,719
August 1, 2023 — August 31, 2023	294,950	\$ 62.94	294,950	\$ 311,946,880
September 1, 2023 — September 30, 2023	1,067,708	\$ 60.48	1,067,708	\$ 247,374,413
	1,439,950		1,439,260	

⁽¹⁾ 690 shares were purchased in July 2023 in connection with the surrender of shares by associates to satisfy certain tax withholding obligations under compensation plans. These repurchases were not part of our publicly announced program and do not affect our share repurchase program.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

(a) Not applicable.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) During the three months ended September 30, 2023, no director or officer (as defined in Rule 16a-1(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) of the Company adopted or terminated a "Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement" or "non-Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement," as each term is defined in Item 408(a) of Regulation S-K.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1	— Restated Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Registration Statement No. 333-10867 on Form S-3).
3.2	— Articles of Amendment to Restated Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended September 30, 1996).
3.3	— Certificate of Amendment to Restated Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Form 8-K filed May 25, 2018).
3.4	— Statement of Resolution Establishing Series of Shares of Series D Junior Participating Preferred Stock, dated July 27, 1998 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 1998).
3.5	— Bylaws of the Company (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Form 8-K filed May 5, 2023).
4.1	— Senior Indenture dated as of February 1, 1993 by and between the Company and The Bank of New York, as trustee (Incorporated by reference as Exhibit 4.1 to Form S-4 filed September 2, 2004 (File No. 333-118763)).
4.2	— Agreement of Resignation, Appointment of Acceptance, dated December 12, 2005, among the Company, The Bank of New York and The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., appointing a successor trustee for the Senior Indenture dated as of February 1, 1993 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2005).
31.1	— Certification of Thomas L. Ryan as Principal Executive Officer in satisfaction of Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	— Certification of Eric D. Tanzberger as Principal Financial Officer in satisfaction of Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1	— Certification of Periodic Financial Reports by Thomas L. Ryan as Principal Executive Officer in satisfaction of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2	— Certification of Periodic Financial Reports by Eric D. Tanzberger as Principal Financial Officer in satisfaction of Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101	— Interactive data file formatted Inline XBRL.
104	— Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101).

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

November 2, 2023

SERVICE CORPORATION INTERNATIONAL

By: /s/ TAMMY MOORE

Tammy Moore
Vice President and Corporate Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)