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Funeral Celebrant
& Author



Funeral Celebrant Services

Suggestions for Remembrance

***Tell How It Felt to Be Part of His/Her
Life***

***Present Some Personal Photos or
Memorabilia***

Create a Personal Memorial Folder

Personalize Tributes

Host a Reception

Share with Others During The Service

Do a Candle Lighting Service

Share a Personal Eulogy

Dedicate a Reading or Poem

Select Special Songs

Play or Sing The Music



Marguerite O'Connor, PC
Certified Funeral Celebrant

Remembering the Relationships

The best thing any of us can do is to listen, when the family tells us the story of their loved one. Their hearts share a picture of that person.

Having experienced my own losses, I know how healing the service of remembrance can be. This tribute gathers the family in and helps them to relate to each other's loss as well as their own. It examines the life lived in a way that reflects honor, acknowledges the end of life and the beginning of a new existence for the survivors.

Together we will create a special event that commemorates the person, the life and the love of one's family.

What is a Funeral Celebrant?

A funeral celebrant is a person who is trained and certified to work with families to plan a personal memorialization of their loved ones. The service will focus on the life of the individual and all that he/she had accomplished.

Why involve a Celebrant?

Many people do not have a church or clergy person on whom to call at the time of death. Others are not comfortable with a traditional religious funeral ceremony. Consequently, the need for a humanistic service conducted by a funeral celebrant has become more apparent.

How does the process of using a celebrant work?

The funeral celebrant will begin with a personal interview of the deceased's family. Using this information, a special eulogy and service is created that reflects the personality and life style of the loved one. Participation by the family is encouraged and special tributes of music, poems or readings may be offered. The celebrant designs the service and coordinates the practical issues giving the family and friends a meaningful gathering ceremony.

What should I do if my loved one didn't request a service?

The death of a close relative can be an intense experience for any of us. It is a time for communicating the meaning of this person's life and all that he or she meant to you. Even though your loved one did not request a service, it is important to take care of your own needs.

The funeral services helps the family and friends express and share their sadness. It is likely the last opportunity to focus their thoughts on the person who died. The ceremony deserves to be a memorable occasion, which uniquely and affectionately honors the person's life.

It is also possible to meet and share in a more informal gathering where the life that was lived is commemorated. The service does not necessarily have to be a formal event.

How do I arrange for a Celebrant?

You may call the celebrant directly or ask the funeral director to contact the celebrant for you. The celebrant's payment is comparable to a clergy stipend. The celebrant's service is based on close attention to the special information that the family shares and the details that make the ceremony memorable.

Some Practical Points

- ❖ Contact of a Certified Funeral Celebrant can be made through the funeral home of your choice or directly with the celebrant.
- ❖ Photos, music and special remembrances can help in reflecting the life of the person who died. You may want to collect those before your interview with the celebrant.
- ❖ The service does not have to have a religious connotation. This choice depends largely on the lifestyle of the deceased and what the family feels is appropriate.
- ❖ If at all possible, it is advisable to contact the celebrant as soon as the decision has been made to give the celebrant and the family enough time to share the details of the life lived, plan the service and provide for a suitable setting.
- ❖ If you are making this decision for your own eventual funeral, please ensure that whoever is likely to be organizing it knows what you want. It is not enough to request it in your will; that may be too late to do anything about it.

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