Please read and use this booklet before meeting with your funeral director.

A Guide To

Creating A Meaningful Funeral
Making the funeral more meaningful.

Some who use this booklet will be planning a meaningful funeral for themselves. Others will be planning meaningful funerals for others for whom they bear responsibility. This booklet is written as if the reader is planning their own funeral, but can just as easily be used to plan a funeral for someone else.

We are here to help you acknowledge the impact of your own life, or the life and death of someone you love or care about very much. Through our many years of experience, we have found that having all of the family members, and friends, create and participate in the funeral ceremony provides all with an understanding of the life lived meaning of its loss that will forever affect their lives.

Take the time to plan ahead to create a ceremony that will have meaning to you and to those who will remain after your death. Also, bear in mind, the funeral director will allow ample time after your death for your family to assemble and to prepare for and bring their own perspective to complement the meaningful funeral you create. This means there is no time pressure to have a funeral in haste. When a death occurs, many families can wait 5, 10, 14 or even up to 30 days to hold a funeral in order to allow time to make the necessary preparations for a meaningful ceremony as well as to provide time for family members to arrange time off from work and travel.

This booklet is comprised of two parts. The first is the creative section. This section begins the thought process about events and elements that can be included in your funeral make to convey special meaning to you and your survivors. It will prompt you with examples, as well as with questions. You may discover one or two unique ideas to include as part of your funeral. You may find twenty. No matter the number, feel free to add them all. This is a time to personalize your ceremony, not compromise your funeral. Be sure to select activities and items that include some or all of the members of your family, or some of your friends. Having them participate in the event, rather than just being an observer, will serve them well in recognizing and working through their grief from losing you.

The second part of this booklet is to record vital information—such as name, date of birth, place of birth, parent’s names, etc. This is also the section in which you describe some of the creative elements to add to your funeral to make it meaningful. You may want to review the first section of the book again for ideas, or to stimulate your own thinking about something special you want done at your funeral. The more specific you are at this point, the better.

Having completed this booklet, share it with your spouse, life partner, children or sibling. Make sure someone knows how you have planned for your meaningful funeral. You can even take this booklet to your local funeral home and have them keep a copy on hand. Your funeral director and your family will use this booklet as their guidebook.

Something to remember: Don’t worry about what we think, or what the funeral director thinks, or what any one else thinks. The only thing that matters is what you think, and whether or not what you do is meaningful to you and the family you love and the friends you cherish. There is
no right way or wrong way to have a funeral celebrating the life you shared with your family and friends.

Live your life for the present moment, with the comfort of knowing you have planned for the end.

**Creative Ideas**

The following is a list of creative ideas to consider regarding the visitation, funeral, memorialization, burial, or cremation process—even home activities following the funeral. The purpose of the list is to provide you with choices and alternatives for your own funeral. Perhaps reading one item will prompt an idea of your own for an element or event to add to your funeral. Again, in the latter part of this booklet, you will be asked to list some of the creative ideas you wish to have incorporated into your funeral. A good starting point is to perhaps write the number of any one or more of the paragraphs in the back of that section. Then when you return to that section at the end of this process, simply write in the specifics for your own personal funeral.

1. Make it clear that it is okay for your funeral to be several days after your death. A funeral can take place days, even weeks, after a death. Leave this option open to your family so they have sufficient time to make the preparations for a creative and meaningful ceremony, plus give family and friends time to plan to attend. Many people actually miss funerals because they are scheduled just 2-3 days following a death.

2. Have the pre-school and or school-age children related to the deceased draw pictures of the deceased being with them at some special time. These pictures can then be hung on the walls of the funeral home during the visitation. These pictures can then be both reproduced (often in color) in a booklet for all the family members to keep, and the original pictures can be placed in the casket with the deceased by each one of the children. This will be the children’s way of saying “goodbye.” The gift of a child’s art is priceless. You may even have saved art you wish to include. If so, be sure to specify this.

3. Bring several (anywhere from 2 to 100) personal possessions of the deceased to the funeral home to be placed on the floor, on tables or on pedestals to be seen during the visitation the day/evening before the funeral. These could include books, clothing, a bicycle, a camera, a vase, a painting, etc. (If we can get it though a doorway of the funeral home, you can bring it in). You may want to have each family member pick out one item they would like to bring in to the funeral home. These should be possessions that each of the family members closely identifies with the deceased and reminds them of some special time or event of the deceased’s life.

   Family members or friends may also decide to place one or more of these items, permanently, in the casket either at the visitation, at the funeral or at the cemetery grave site. Or these keepsakes may be bestowed upon those to whom they mean the most.
4. If the deceased had a cherished hobby, profession, or avocation, bring items to be displayed in the funeral home during the visitation/funeral that are remembrances of these activities including but certainly not limited to:

**Gardener**  
Special flowers, fruits or vegetables (including canned items). If flowers, ask in the obituary for certain types of flowers to be sent by family and friends.

**Antiques**  
Many items from a collection or a particular item the deceased restored. Perhaps lead the procession to the church and/or cemetery with an antique car the deceased owned.

**Model Trains**  
Bring in the train cars to be displayed, or set up a running model train. Place one or more train cars in the casket to be buried with the deceased.

**Model Planes**  
Display the model planes at the funeral home during the visitation. Fly a model plane over the gravesite at the end of the funeral service.

**Band Member**  
Place the musical instrument on display. Have someone who plays the same musical instrument play at the visitation or ceremony. Have the band play as part of the funeral ceremony.

**Motorcyclist**  
Bring the motorcycle into the funeral home and park it next to the casket. Have a group of motorcyclists lead the cemetery procession.

**Fisherman**  
Display fishing hat, rod, tackle box. Have the boat, motor and trailer be pulled along as part of the procession to the cemetery.

**Military Veteran**  
Display uniform, medals, insignia, souvenirs, news clippings, and other memorabilia. The unit in which the veteran served is of particular importance to those with whom they served.

**Motherhood**  
Children’s clothing, bronzed shoes, children’s art, photos of special moments with Mom (i.e. Baptism, 1st Communion, Graduations, Weddings, and other rites of passage that made Mom proud).
Firefighters  The firefighting profession is wealthy with keepsakes, collectibles, and other memorabilia such as model fire engines, antique and contemporary equipment, and fine art. It is not unusual to see actual fire trucks as part of the funeral.

Fatherhood  Sporting equipment, cards and letters, photos of special events with Dad, toys, models, games, and other items reminding children of those special moments with Dad.

Police  Much like firefighting, the law enforcement community is replete with keepsakes, collectibles. Many police funerals are escorted by multiple motorcycles and/or squad cars.

5. Consider personalizing the casket, vault, and/or urn with images of these themes.

6. Art containing images of these themes is entirely appropriate. Many funeral homes even offer affordable limited edition art that can include images of the deceased along with memorial candles and other keepsakes which, after the funeral, become a lasting remembrance and heirloom for family and friends.

7. Bring the favorite music of the deceased to the funeral home to be played during the visitation, or to be played as part of the funeral ceremony. These can be CD’s, cassette tapes or records.

8. Bring several (anywhere from 2 to 100 photographs) of the deceased to the funeral home to create a montage of photos on a memory board (36” x 48” white graphics arts tack cardboard displayed on an easel) that the funeral home has just for this purpose. Please be sure to place your name on the back of each photograph to make sure that the photographs are returned to the appropriate family member.

Some of the photographs could be reproduced in a booklet by having them photocopied or scanned into a computer and printed out. A family member may want to create this booklet as their significant participation in the funeral. A family member can also keep the entire graphics art board with the pictures on it.

9. As part of the obituary to be placed in the newspaper, or at the visitation, ask friends to write a short paragraph or two describing their favorite memory of the deceased, or the personal attributes of the deceased they most enjoyed. These can be used to write a more creative obituary. Or, ask them to write a one or two sentence epitaph they would put on the deceased’s grave marker.

A booklet of these notes can be created and then copied for each of the family members. You may have a family member who would like to create this booklet as their form of participation in the funeral.
10. Bring in a video or movie of the deceased that you would like to show as part of the visitation or funeral ceremony.

11. Videotape or make an audio recording of the funeral.

12. Create a video tribute to the deceased. Some funeral homes have equipment with which they can create these video tributes using photographs and video.

13. Instead of having one person provide a eulogy at the funeral, ask several family members and/or friends to each prepare a short (for example, 2-minute) eulogy. Have every one of them speak as part of a “multiple eulogy.” This can be done as part of a service during the visitation or during the funeral ceremony or at the gravesite.

14. Have a live performer at the visitation and or funeral:

   Vocals           Soloist, duet, a choral group, an entire choir.

   Instrument      Soloist, duet, trio, quartet, ensemble, an entire band (jazz, rock, a bagpipe player or even a marching band).

These performers could be from your church, from the local high school, or part of a theater group in town.

If a family member wants to sing, but doesn’t think they could make it through the song during the funeral because of their emotional attachment to the deceased, suggest they record the song on tape and the tape can be played during the funeral.

15. The funeral home has the ability to provide live butterflies or doves to be released during the service or at the cemetery as a symbolic gesture. However, this is sometimes seasonally related.

16. Color-coordinate all of the flower colors or the type of flowers. Instruct the florist to create all flower bouquets ordered for the deceased and delivered to the funeral home to have specific colors or specific flowers.

17. Instead of flowers, name a specific charity where donations should be made in the name of the deceased.

18. Instead of flowers, have balloons. (Specify bio-degradable balloons which are now available). Have them all in a certain color or mix of colors. Name, children, siblings or grandchildren to release balloons at the end of the ceremony or at the cemetery in honor of the deceased.

19. Have a military color guard (flags) lead the casket as it is moved into and out of the place of the funeral, or even be present at the cemetery.
20. Have a military rifle squad fire three shots at the end of the ceremony or at the cemetery.

21. Have a bugler play Taps. The deceased does not have to be a military veteran in order to have Taps played at their funeral.
Please use the following questionnaire to begin to plan your funeral. It is primarily designed to gather specific information about you, your relatives, location of funeral, cemetery, etc.

Keep in mind this is not a project you have to do all at once. Perhaps you want to work on it one section at a time; taking breaks for a few hours or a few days can help you formulate plans that are best suited to you. We recommend you read through the entire questionnaire first, before answering any of the questions; that will give you a better sense of what the entire plan is about, and how it flows.

Also, please keep in mind it is okay to change your mind from time to time. Therefore, you may want to write in pencil or, if you use ink, to make revisions.

**WARNING:** Do not put this document in a safety deposit box. Instead, we have created this document in a letter-sized format so that it can be easily photocopied. Make one or more copies and give it to the person(s) who will be responsible for carrying out the funeral wishes you describe in this plan.

**Please print** since someone else will be responsible to read and carry out your plan at a later date.
Funeral Plan of

____________________     __________________     ______________
First Name          Middle Name          Last Name

If you have more than one middle name, simply write your name in its entirety across the three lines above.

Name the person who you would like to follow through and see that your Funeral Plan is carried out following your death. (This can be your next of kin, funeral director, attorney, etc.). Then, name two more people in order who, in the event of the primary person’s inability to act on your behalf, the next person on this list would take over that duty.

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<th>First Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Last Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relationship to You</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Background Information

Social Security Number ______ — ____ — __________

Citizen of___________________________

Country

Current Address

________________________________________

City ___________________ State _______ Zip ________
Date of Birth   ____________________     ________, __________

Place of Birth   __________________, ____________________, __________________

Your Father   __________________     __________________     __________________

Your Mother   __________________     __________________     __________________

Your Mother’s Last Name (Maiden) _____________________

Your marital status: (check one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“x”</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Last</th>
<th>Maiden</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Married</td>
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<td>Divorced</td>
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<td>Widow</td>
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<td>Widower</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Separated</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Life Partner</td>
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<td>Other: (describe)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Single</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you have been married: (only the most recent marriage if married more than once)

Where and when did the marriage take place?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Please provide the name of your children, in their order of birth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Their Spouse / Partner</th>
<th>Your Child’s Father’s Last Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
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<td>First Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
<td>Last Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please provide the name of your siblings (your brothers and sisters), in their order of birth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sibling’s Name</th>
<th>Their spouse/partner</th>
<th>Your Sibling’s Father’s Last Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Last</td>
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<td>First Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Name</td>
<td>Last Name</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Military Service (if applicable to you)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch of Service</th>
<th>Serial Number</th>
<th>Date Enlisted</th>
<th>Date Discharged</th>
<th>Rank at Discharge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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</tbody>
</table>
Wars you have served in: (check more than one if applicable)

- WWI
- WWII
- Korean Conflict
- Vietnam War
- Gulf War
- Other _______________________

**Basic Funeral Plans**

The more creative and interesting aspects of arranging your funeral will be addressed in the last question of this Plan.

If you would like to have your body donated for science, please check this box □. Bear in mind your body will be returned to your family after being used for scientific study, and the funeral choices that follow are still applicable to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funeral Home Preference</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address</td>
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<td>City</td>
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<td>State</td>
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<td>Zip</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funeral / Burial Insurance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Number</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Place of Funeral</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
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<td>Zip Code</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This can be a church, funeral home chapel, school auditorium, VFW hall, etc. Be bold enough to make sure the location helps to make your funeral meaningful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person to Lead / Officiate at My Funeral</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title (Ex: Mr., Mrs., Ms., Reverend, Rabbi, Father, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funerals can be conducted by anyone—it doesn’t have to be a minister. Think of someone who actually knows you as a person, and that will be an excellent choice. Your funeral director will help guide this person through the funeral process.
## Casket Bearers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>M.I.</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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</table>

## Honorary Casket Bearers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>M.I.</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
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This distinction is to be sure you recognize someone as a casket bearer, but since you can only have 6 actual casket bearers, you are able to name additional people to serve in that role on an honorary basis. You do not have to name 8 people. You can name none or 1 if you want to.

## Music

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Song</th>
<th>Original Performer</th>
<th>Person(s) You Would Like to Perform the Song (May be the original performer to be played on CD)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>First Name</td>
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</table>

See the song list attached to this Plan for songs which can have significant meaning to you and your family.
Clothing

Generally describe the type of clothing you would like to wear, including shoes. (Be sure to include special accessory items such as glasses, watch, rings, earrings, pendant, necklace, hat, etc.) Also, be sure to note if you want to be buried with any one or more of these items, or if they are to be removed before burial and given to someone you name. Write “give to ______” after the item and name the person who is to receive a particular accessory. If you are to be cremated, you should designate that these accessory items be removed before you are cremated.

Cemetery Choice

The cemetery I want to be placed in
Street Address
City
State
Zip Code

I already own: (check one)

- Burial plot
- Mausoleum Space
- Cremation Niche Space
- Lawn Crypt
- Other _____________________

Attach to this Plan the contract or other paperwork that shows your ownership of this type of burial or cremation space.

If no cemetery was selected above, please select one of the following:

- Scatter my cremated remains, at ________________________________.
  
- Place my cremated remains in an urn, and give to ______________________.
  
- Let my family decide what to do with my cremated remains.

Please bear in mind if you are cremated, your remaining family has some options. For example, they can bury your cremated remains in a cemetery. Or, they can place your cremated remains in a cremation urn and keep the urn in the family home or other location. Or, the cremated remains can actually be divided up into parts, so multiple family members can each have urns with your cremated remains in their homes as mementoes or keepsakes to remind them of you.
## The Cemetery Procession

Landmarks the Procession Should Drive By on the Way to the Church / Cemetery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Describe Landmark</th>
<th>Street Address, if known</th>
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</table>

## Memorial Folders

These are the 4-page folders that are handed out to friends and family attending the visitation or the funeral. They can also be used by mailing them to persons who were unable to attend the visitation or funeral.

Describe the poem, letter, saying, bible verse you wanted printed on the inside cover of your Memorial Folders, or write something yourself.

## Things I have written that I want read at my Funeral

Generally describe the item

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ex. Letter, poem, section of a book, etc.</th>
<th>Where can a copy be found by your next of kin? (Best to make copy and attach to this Plan).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## Flowers

My favorite kinds of flowers are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Color</th>
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</table>
Donations

Instead of, or in addition to, sending flowers, my friends and family can make donations to my favorite charity which is:

Name of Charity
Street Address
City
State
Zip Code

My Obituary

Write the words that will be your obituary. You can try writing the entire obituary, or you may simply write one or more paragraphs that you would like to appear in the obituary. The funeral home staff will make sure the obituary is fully complete before it is printed. However, we strongly encourage you to avoid the “just the facts ma’am” format of most obituaries you see in the newspaper. Instead, try writing your life as a story—see where that takes you.
My Epitaph

Write the words you would like to appear on your grave marker. (Can also be engraved on the front of a cremation niche space, or the side of a cremation urn). Be brief, but make it count.

Key people to contact in the event of my death.

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<td>I want to provide regarding my Funeral</td>
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If there is something that has not been recorded by the questions or other sections of this Plan, feel free to add it here. Remember, if you saw something you liked on the previous “Creative Ideas” list, instead of re-writing the idea here, simply write the number of that particular paragraph here, and perhaps add your own note of how that item would be customized to your liking. Or, if you liked one of the funerals described in the following pages, simply write the name of the funeral (for example, “Candle in the Wind”), and note whether you want the funeral to be followed by burial or cremation.
Song List

Here is a list of songs we have heard played at funerals (and some we wish were played at funerals), that are something other than traditional hymns. We hope you can find several songs to add to your funeral to give it meaning to you and the ones you love.

*Please visit [www.funeral.com](http://www.funeral.com) for a complete listing of Songs.*
Examples of Creative Funerals

Here are ten examples of funerals that were created in order to make them meaningful for both the deceased and the family and friends that were left behind. These are provided to help you see both the creativity as well as the process of a funeral. The first five examples are for people who chose a funeral followed by a burial; the last five examples are for people who chose a funeral followed by cremation.

Examples of 5 Funerals Followed by Burial

*Fairway to Heaven*

*This ceremony is for the men and women who have found joy, frustration, as well as new and long-time friends, on the golf course.*

We all have hobbies and interest outside our work and family environment. Golf has grown in popularity to such an extent that often the sport is the very first thing we think of when a persons name is mentioned. The golf theme is suggested for that person.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

**The Casket**

Your casket will bear photo image representing the approach shot we all have in our memory or imagination. It is a picture of the fairway, the green and flagstick in the distance, and the beautiful horizon of clouds and mountains as a backdrop. This burial casket is pictured above. This casket is made of 18 gauge steel and seals against outside elements and water. The casket is made by White Light Casket Company based in Houston, Texas.

**The Vault**
Your burial vault will be the Stainless Steel Triune. This burial vault is pictured above. The Triune is our choice because its construction is not only reinforced concrete, but also has a stainless steel liner for greater gravesite protection. As well the game of golf has many application of stainless from clubs shafts, club heads, spikes all of which require durability.

**Your Clothing**
You may be buried in a favorite golf out-fit, including hat and golf spikes if you want to, or choose any clothing you desire. You will select you clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

**The Obituary**
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the [My Obituary](#) section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact that your visitation and funeral is being conducted with a “Golfing Theme” and suggest that gifts or flowers bear golfing images to complement the theme.

**The Visitation**

**Place**
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

**Register Book**
A book, bearing the image of a golfer, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

**Memorial Candles**
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

**Memorial Art**
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

**Memorial Folders**
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folder will bear the image of a Rose somewhere in its pages. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the [Special Directions](#) section in this Funeral Plan.
Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, and favorite course photographs. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your golfing experience: Here is the ideal place for your golf bag to stand, unless you would prefer it be directly next to the casket. Other items could be golf hats, golf balls, or individual golf clubs. Even the local golf course should bring one of their spare flagsticks to be stood next to the casket. No limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.

Music
Music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Golf Club, Golf Ball and Tees

A golf club will be placed in one of your hands inside the casket, the other hand will cradle a golf ball. A few golf tees will be placed in one of your pockets, and one of your score cards, maybe from that “round of your life” will be held by you as well. These items will be buried with you.

Golf Pictures
Each child who attends the visitation or funeral will be asked to draw a picture of you golfing to be display on the Memory Table. The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. The children
will be asked to sign their pictures, and all of the pictures will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to wish you a send-off to play golf through eternity.

Golf Gifts
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring small images of golfing to the visitation or funeral. These can be in the form of jewelry (pins, pendants, necklaces, rings), miniature statuary, or pictures, or baskets of flowers that have a golfer theme. These will be displayed on the Memory Table and also around, and on, your casket. You can decide later in the Special Directions section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to real flowers.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt and loss and grief.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral.

Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. This may be the perfect place to involve the other players who made up your regular foursome. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a golf ball. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a golf ball. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memory Board/Register Book/Memorial Folders
The Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the place of the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.
Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*We May Never Pass This Way Again*, sung by Seals & Croft.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. They will be led by the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers. Your closest family members will be following the casket. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors will seat the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers, position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then seat your family. The funeral directors will then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything which has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*My Way*, sung by Frank Sinatra.

The Honorary Casket Bearers will be directed by your funeral director to lead the processional down the aisle and out of the building, followed by the Casket Bearers, followed by your funeral directors pushing your casket. Family and friends will be asked to follow your casket down the aisle. The casket will be pushed to the door and the Casket Bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse.

The Procession
The hearse will lead the procession of mourners to the cemetery. You may have the procession drive by certain landmarks that are important to you. For example, your local golf course, one or more childhood homes, your current home, your high school, your college, crossing a bridge you fished from many times, or follow the route of your morning walk one last time. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.
At the Cemetery
The cars have parked along the roadways of the cemetery that are nearest your grave. The hearse has stopped next to the grave.

The grave has been dug and is protected by a tent which has been provided to protect family and friends from the heat of the sun or the rain in the summer.

The burial vault, without the lid, has already been lowered into your grave. The lid rests above and to one side of the grave opening waiting to be slid over the vault.

The Casket Bearers shall move your casket from the hearse onto the lowering device which has been positioned directly over the grave opening. The casket bearers will form a line next to the casket.

The person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled at your graveside, followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Committal—committing your body to the Earth for burial. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your casket as a gesture of the Committal. Other family members will be asked to place flower petals or entire flowers on the top of your casket as their gesture of the Committal. The casket will be lowered into the burial vault with these items still sitting atop the casket and sealed into the vault with the casket.
The funeral director will ask the casket bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature golf ball lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross. This process shall be repeated for Honorary Casket Bearers if they have been chosen by you.

At the conclusion of burial services, a few fellow golfers can hit a few chips shots at the cemetery in your honor.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Grave Marker or Monument
The funeral home will provide a free temporary steel marker to mark your grave until the grave monument can be placed there. The temporary marker will bear your name and dates of birth and death.

Your permanent marker can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your grave monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, and the trip to the cemetery, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of a golfer.

If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members of friends.
3. Memory Board(s).
4. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
5. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
6. Color copies of a sampling of the golf drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
7. All of the golf-related gifts that were brought to the visitation and funeral by family and friends. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.
8. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
My Guardian Angel

This ceremony is for those whose life was touched by an angel.

I have often thought about how wonderful it will be to finally see and meet my Guardian Angel. But I suspect there is more than one. Often I have imagined what she looks like, because I have felt her near me so many times in my life. And once I dreamt of her. She was kind and gentle, but firm in her conviction to guide me from my troubles of that preceding day. I want my family and friends to know of my Guardian Angel, the trust I have bestowed upon her, and the joy I will experience as she takes me to that next, but very special, place.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

Your casket will bear the photo image of the famous "Guardian Angels" painting. This burial casket is pictured above. This casket is made of 18 gauge steel. The casket is made by White Light Casket Company based in Dallas, Texas. White Light is one of the premier casket manufacturers in the U.S. today.

The Vault

This burial vault bears an emblem of an angel in flight. It also bears your name and the years of your birth and death. This burial vault is pictured above. This vault is made by Wilbert Vault Company which has 200 manufacturing plants nationwide and will provide your vault from the plant nearest the location of your funeral. Wilbert is the largest vault manufacturer in the U.S. today. The exterior of the vault is made of 2,000 pounds of a special mix of concrete, mixed for...
strength and durability. The interior of the vault is lined in glistening, highly-polished stainless steel. The interior of the lid, as well as the top surface of the lid are lined with this same stainless steel.

**Your Clothing**
You may be buried in any clothing you desire. You will select/describe your clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

**The Obituary**
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact your visitation and funeral are being conducted with an “Angel Theme” and suggest that gifts or flowers bear angel images to complement the theme.

**The Visitation**

**Place**
The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

**Register Book**
A book, bearing a picture of an angel on its cover will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

**Memorial Candles**
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

**Memorial Art**
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

**Memorial Folders**
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The image of an angel shall be incorporated into one of the pages of the Memorial Folders.

**Memory Picture Board**
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night
before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life and milestones you achieved. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

**Memory Table**
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your angel theme: Angel statuary, religious items bearing the image of an angel, etc. Plus, the mementoes should also include all other aspects of your life, such as your graduation diploma, wedding license, bicycle, golf bag...there should be no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends in family in relating and communicating to others what they remember best or most about you.

**Music**
Music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

**Angel Pin**
An image of an angel, in the form of an Angel Pin, will be pinned on the right side of your chest as you lay in your casket.

**Angel Pictures**
Each child who attends the visitation or funeral will be asked to draw a picture of an angel which will be displayed along with the other images of the angels surrounding my casket. The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. The children will be asked to sign their pictures, and all of the pictures will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to “give you angels to carry you to heaven.”

**Angel Gifts**
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring small images of angels to the visitation or funeral. These can be in the form of jewelry (pins, pendants, necklaces, rings), miniature statuary, or pictures. These will be displayed on the Memory Table and also around, and on, your casket. You can decide later in the Special Directions section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to flowers.
The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral.

Casket Bearers
The casket bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the casket bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of an angel. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memory Board/Register Book/Memorial Folders
The Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the place of the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help your family and friends recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

One Last Chance To See You
On the day of the funeral your casket will be set up to provide friends and family one last chance to see you. This is particularly important for those who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*On Angels' Wings*, a Christian Hymn to be sung by the congregation.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. They will be led by the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers. Your closest family members will be following the casket. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors will seat the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers, position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then seat your family. The funeral directors will then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise
and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything which has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*Wind Beneath My Wings*, sung by Bette Midler.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will again come down the aisle to your casket, turn the casket and begin pushing it down the aisle. They will be followed by the casket bearers, who will be followed by family and friends. The casket will be pushed to the door and the casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse.

**The Procession**

The hearse will lead the procession of mourners to the cemetery. You may have the procession drive by certain landmarks that are important to you. For example, one or more childhood homes, a religious landmark, crossing a bridge you fished from many times, etc. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

**At the Cemetery**

The cars have parked along the roadways of the cemetery that are nearest your grave. The hearse has stopped next to the grave.
The grave has been dug and is protected by a tent which has been provided to protect family and friends from the heat of the sun or the rain in the summer, and blustery cold winds or the snow in the winter.

The burial vault, without the lid, has already been lowered into your grave. The lid rests above and to one side of the grave opening waiting to be slid over the vault.

The casket bearers shall move your casket from the hearse onto the lowering device which has been positioned directly over the grave opening. The casket bearers will form a line next to the casket.

The person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled at your graveside. Your funeral director will then step up to your closest relative and present them with a duplicate of the Angel Pin that you were wearing in the casket.

The funeral director will ask the casket bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature angle lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

“Every time a bell rings, an angel gets their wings.”
A bell or a set of bells will be brought to the cemetery. The bell will be positioned near the grave site. At this point in the ceremony each family member will be asked to step up to the
bell and ring it once. Then, the casket bearers as well as everyone else at the cemetery will individually step forward and ring the bell once.

As the solemn, single bell tolls rings throughout the cemetery, your casket will slowly be lowered down into the awaiting vault. The vault lid will be positioned over the vault and be lowered and sealed into place. Then, the entire vault lowered to the bottom of the grave. Family members may stay and watch the lid being put in place, the vault lowered and the grave filled. One or more family members and friends will have the choice to place a shovel-full of dirt into the grave as a gesture to help them say goodbye.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Grave Marker or Monument
The funeral home will provide a free temporary steel marker to mark your grave until the grave monument can be placed there. The temporary marker will bear your name and dates of birth and death.

Your permanent marker can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your grave monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, and the trip to the cemetery, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the Cash Fund section in this Funeral Plan.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with an unlimited number of Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s)
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. Color copies of a sampling of the angel drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
9. A duplicate of the Angel Pin placed on your chest which will be given to your closest next-of-kin.
10. All of the images of the angels that were brought to the visitation and funeral by friends and family. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.
11. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
Our Veteran Heroes

This ceremony is for the men and women who have served in the armed forces.

There is no greater service to our country than that provided by the men and women who defend our country at war and at peace. These individuals placed themselves at risk so the rest of us would feel, and be, free. Our nation is forever indebted to their personal sacrifice. We have honored these incredibly brave and deserving individuals while they have lived and we shall honor them and grieve upon their death.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

Your casket will bear photo images representing the division of the armed forces in which you served. This casket is made of 18 gauge steel. The casket is made by White Light Casket Company based in Dallas, Texas. White Light is one of the premier casket manufacturers in the U.S. today.

The Vault

Your burial vault will be the Veteran Salute SST also bearing the insignia (on the top of the lid) of the military branch in which you served. This burial vault is pictured above. This vault is made by Wilbert Vault Company which has 200 manufacturing plants nationwide and will provide your vault from the plant nearest the location of your funeral. Wilbert is the largest vault manufacturer in the U.S. today.
Your Clothing
You may be buried in your military uniform, or any other clothing you desire. You will select you clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

The Obituary
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary.

The Visitation

Place

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you should move or change your mind.

Register Book

A book, bearing the insignia of the division of the armed forces you served in, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles

These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art

Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders

Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board

Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones (including your military service) This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.
Memory Table

In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your military service: Uniform, medals, photos, discharge papers, etc. Plus, the mementoes should also include all other aspects of your life, such as your graduation diploma, wedding license, bicycle, golf bag...there should be no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends in family in relating and communicating to others what they remember best or most about you.

Music

Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

American Flag

Your casket will be at the front of the room and open for viewing. The unopened half of the casket will be draped with a full-sized American Flag.

You may also want to have the American P.O.W. flag also displayed in the room.
The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt, loss, and grief.

The Funeral

Place

You will describe the place where the funeral will occur in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Time

The funeral will be held on the day following the visitation. Your family and funeral director, will chose the time of day that best accommodates the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral. Approximately ten minutes prior to the beginning of the funeral, your family together with the person officiating at your funeral, whether it be a minister, priest, a family friend or a family member, will gather together for a few minutes of quiet meditation or prayer.

Casket Bearers

The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as Casket Bearers. This will also be a good place to involve friends or people who participated in organizations with you. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a candle. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers

If you want to make others feel included in the funeral, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a candle. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders

Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the place of the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.
Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help your family and friends recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

One Last Chance To See You
On the day of the funeral the casket may be left open prior to the start of the funeral to provide friends and family one last chance for viewing. This is particularly important for those who could not attend the visitation the day before.

The Funeral Begins
To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

    God Bless The U.S.A., sung by Lee Greenwood.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle, led by a military color guard proceeding in slow, synchronized formation ahead of your casket. Upon reaching the front of the room, the color guard will step to the right side while your funeral directors position your casket sideways at the very front of the room. The honor guard will then proceed back down the aisle followed by your funeral directors.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything which has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

The ceremony will close by having another of your song choices begin playing. The color guard will lead the funeral directors down the aisle to your casket. The color guard will turn, proceed back down the aisle followed by your funeral directors pushing your casket. They will be followed by the casket bearers, who will be followed by family and friends. The casket will be pushed to the door and the casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse.

The Procession
The hearse will lead the procession of mourners to the cemetery. You may have the procession drive by certain landmarks that are important to you. For example, one or more childhood homes, the local VFW, crossing a bridge you fished from many times, etc. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.
At the Cemetery
The cars have parked along the roadways of the cemetery that are nearest your grave. The hearse has stopped next to the grave.

The grave has been dug and is protected by a tent which has been provided to protect family and friends from the heat of the sun or the rain in the summer, and blustery cold winds or the snow in the winter.

The burial vault, without the lid, has already been lowered into your grave. The lid rests above and to one side of the grave opening waiting to be slid over the vault.

The casket bearers shall move your casket from the hearse onto the lowering device which has been positioned directly over the grave opening. The casket bearers will form a line next to the casket.

The person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled at your graveside. Your funeral director will then step up to your closest relative and present them with the American Flag that was draped over your casket at the visitation.
The Flag has been folded into the tight, triangular shape that is the military custom, and has been placed in an oak, triangular-shaped, glass front case which will be used to display the Flag in your relative's home or other place of their choice.

The funeral director will ask the casket bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature flag lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

Three Report Rifle Volley

A military rifle squad will fire a simultaneous three-shot volley as a sign of honor and remembrance of a fellow soldier.
A bugler will then play Taps. As Taps are played your casket will slowly be lowered down into the awaiting vault. The vault lid will be positioned over the vault and be lowered and sealed into place. Then, the entire vault lowered to the bottom of the grave. Family members may stay and watch the lid being put in place, the vault lowered and the grave filled. One or more family members and friends will have the choice to place a shovel-full of dirt into the grave as a gesture to help them say goodbye.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Grave Marker or Monument
The funeral home will provide a free temporary steel marker to mark your grave until the grave monument can be placed there. The temporary marker will bear your name and dates of birth and death.

Your permanent marker can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your grave monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, and the trip to the cemetery, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with an unlimited number of Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide
your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented following the funeral:

1. Register Book
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s).
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. The American Flag that was draped over the casket, plus the triangular-shaped flag case.
9. Color copies of a sampling of the drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
10. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
The Mass of Christian Burial
This Mass is for the men and women in the Roman Catholic Church tradition.

The Mass of Christian Burial is the celebration of your life, and the fact your soul is now with the Lord.

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This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

**The Casket**

![Casket Image]

Your casket will bear photo image representing the Last Supper. This burial casket is pictured above. This casket is made of 18 gauge steel and seals against outside elements and water. White Light Casket Company based in Houston, Texas makes the casket.

**The Vault**

![Vault Image]

Your burial vault will be the Venetian. This burial vault is pictured above. The Venetian is our choice because its construction is not only reinforced concrete, but also has an ABS liner for greater gravesite protection.

**Your Clothing**

You may be buried in a favorite gardening outfit, or choose any clothing you desire. You will select you clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.
The Obituary
The funeral home staff will write your obituary unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
A book, bearing the insignia of a Rose, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be The Prayer of St. Francis, or a Bible verse, a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, and favorite photographs. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your experience: For example, if you are an active gardener, here is the ideal place for your gardening wagon, or tool bucket. There should be
no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.

Music
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

During the visitation a “Scripture Vigil” will occur at a determined time. The Vigil prayers are scripture readings and Wake prayers recited in the presence of all attending. Many Traditional Roman Catholics prefer the recitation of the Rosary. The visitation will be at the funeral home the night before the Funeral Mass.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan, but normally the Mass occurs at your home Parish.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral Mass to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral and your Pastor.

Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a cross. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a single rose. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders
Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.
Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
The funeral service will actually begin at the funeral home. The final prayers of the family and final farewell will take place at the funeral home. The funeral cars and family transportation will form a procession and travel to your home parish church. With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. The funeral liturgy begins in the rear of church with absolution of the casket. Your family will place the Pall over the casket when the Priest says, “on the day of your Baptism you put on Christ.” To begin the Mass the Pastor and servers will begin the processional into the narthex of the church. The casket bearers will follow, and your casket and family after them. During this time the following song will be played:

Ave Maria, a church hymn.

Name the priest you would like to officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The priest officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything that has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

Pace Angelicas, a church hymn.

The Mass will be complete when the priest joins the congregation after the Mass for the Final Commendation. The casket will be pushed to the door and the children or grandchildren will remove the Pall from the casket. The casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse.

The Procession
The hearse will lead the procession of mourners to the cemetery. You may have the procession drive by certain landmarks that are important to you. For example, one or more childhood homes, your current home, your high school, your college, crossing a bridge you fished from many times, or follow the route of your morning walk one last time. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.
At the Cemetery
The cars have parked along the roadways of the cemetery that are nearest your grave. The hearse has stopped next to the grave.

The grave has been dug and is protected by a tent, which has been provided to protect family and friends from the heat of the sun or the rain in the summer and the cold winds or snow of the winter.

The burial vault, without the lid, has already been lowered into your grave. The lid rests above and to one side of the grave opening waiting to be slid over the vault.

The Casket Bearers shall move your casket from the hearse onto the lowering device, which has been positioned directly over the grave opening. The casket bearers will form a line next to the casket.

The Priest will bless your gravesite and commit your earthly remains to the ground, while your soul is commended unto God. The priest will offer the Holy Water sprinkler to each family member so that they may sprinkle Holy Water and bless the grave as well.

Family members will be asked to place flower petals or entire flowers on the top of your casket as their gesture of commended your soul to God. The casket will be lowered into the burial vault with these items still sitting atop the casket and sealed into the vault with the casket.

The funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each Casket Bearer shall remove their miniature cross lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross. This process will be repeated for Honorary Casket Bearers if they have been chosen by you.

This will conclude the ceremony.
Grave Marker or Monument
The funeral home will provide a free temporary steel marker to mark your grave until the grave monument can be placed there. The temporary marker will bear your name and dates of birth and death.

Your permanent marker can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your grave monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, and the trip to the cemetery, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. This gathering will take place in the community room at your home parish.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of a Cross. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s).
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. Color copies of a sampling of the drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
9. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
Gone Fishing
This ceremony is for the men and women Who enjoy the sport of fishing.

Most of us can recall the image of Opey carrying that fishing pole in the opening scene of every Andy Griffith Show. Fishing has been a sport and a pastime that almost all of us have experienced at least once whether standing on a shore or dock, or in a boat. We remember anxiously staring at the bobber in the water, trying to determine if each movement up or down was just the movement of the water or was some wily fish taking our bait. But we also recall the times when the fish were biting and the stringers full of fish we have captured on film.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

Your casket will bear the image of that perfectly calm lake just begging you to come and fish one more time. This burial casket is pictured above. This casket is made of 18 gauge steel and seals against outside elements and water. The casket is made by White Light Casket Company based in Houston, Texas.

The Vault

Your burial vault will be the Venetian by Wilbert. This burial vault is pictured above. The Venetian is a high quality choice because its construction is not only reinforced concrete, but also has an ABS liner for greater gravesite protection.
Your Clothing
You may be buried in a favorite fishing out-fit—yes, even hip boots fatigues and hunting boots—or choose any clothing you desire. You will select your clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

Your Obituary
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact your visitation and funeral are being conducted with a "Fishing Theme" and suggest that gifts or flowers bear fishing lures or fishing images to complement the theme.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
A book, bearing the image of a fisherman on its cover, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover, either a formal portrait or a picture taken of you on one of your fishing trips. Inside the front cover will be a bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, your fishing boat and motor, and pictures of you and your friends and family showing off your fishing trophies. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.
Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your fishing experiences. Here is the ideal place for your fishing poles and tackle box to stand, an outboard motor on a stand, your favorite fishing lures, stuffed fishing trophies, etc. There is no limit to the imagination, of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.

Music
Background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. In addition, “Nature Sounds” will be played in the background to hear the call of the loon, and other beautiful sounds of nature. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Fishing Gear
Some element of your fishing gear will be placed in the casket with you. This could be a fishing lure(s), a fishing pole, etc. One of these items will be placed in your hands. This item may be buried with you or, just prior to going to the cemetery, the funeral director will remove this item from the casket and return it to your family.

Fishing Pictures
Each child who attends the visitation or funeral will be asked to draw a picture of you fishing which will be displayed along with other mementos on the Memory Table. The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. The children will be asked to sign their pictures, and all of the pictures will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to give happy fishing through eternity.
Fishing Gifts
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring fishing lures or small images of people fishing to the visitation or funeral. These can be in the form of jewelry (pins, pendants, necklaces, rings), miniature statuary, fishing lures or pictures. These will be displayed on the Memory Table and also around, and on, your casket. You can decide later in the Special Directions section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to real flowers.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt and loss and grief.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral, normally that is late afternoon and early evening.

Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as Casket Bearers. This will also be a good place to involve friends or the rest of the people in the fishing parties you commonly participated in. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a fish. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a fish. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders
Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.
**Video**

The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

**The Funeral Begins**

With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*Theme Song of the Andy Griffith Show (“The Fishin’ Hole”)*.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. They will be led by the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers. Your closest family members will be following the casket. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors will seat the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers, position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then seat your family. The funeral directors will then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything that has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*Memories*, sung by Elvis Presley.

The Honorary Casket Bearers will be directed by your funeral director to lead the processional down the aisle and out of the building, followed by the Casket Bearers, followed by your funeral directors pushing your casket. Family and friends will be asked to follow your casket down the aisle. The casket will be pushed to the door and the Casket Bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse.

**The Procession**

The hearse will lead the procession of mourners to the cemetery. But an important element will make your procession unique. Right behind the hearse will be a vehicle towing a boat and motor. You may have the procession drive by certain landmarks that are important to you. For example, one or more childhood homes, your current home, your high school, your college, crossing a bridge you fished from many times, or follow the route of your morning walk one last time. Include these elements in the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan.
At the Cemetery
The cars have parked along the roadways of the cemetery that are nearest your grave. The hearse has stopped next to the grave.

The grave has been dug and is protected by a tent, which has been provided to protect family and friends from the heat of the sun or the rain in the summer and the cold winds or snow of the winter.

The burial vault, without the lid, has already been lowered into your grave. The lid rests above and to one side of the grave opening waiting to be slid over the vault.

The Casket Bearers will move your casket from the hearse onto the lowering device, which has been positioned directly over the grave opening. The Casket Bearers will form a line and stand off to the side but next to the casket.

The person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled at your graveside, followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Commital—commiting your body to the Earth for burial. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your casket as a gesture of the Commital. Other family members will be asked to place fishing lures, flower petals, entire flowers on the top of your casket as their gesture of the Commital. The casket will be lowered into the burial vault with these items still sitting atop the casket and sealed into the vault with the casket.

The funeral director will ask the casket bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature fish lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross. This process will be repeated for Honorary Casket Bearers if they have been chosen by you.

This will conclude the ceremony.
Grave Marker or Monument
The funeral home will provide a free temporary steel marker to mark your grave until the grave monument can be placed there. The temporary marker will bear your name and dates of birth and death.

Your permanent marker can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your grave monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, and the trip to the cemetery, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of a fisherman. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s).
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. Color copies of a sampling of the drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
9. The fishing related gifts that were brought to the visitation and funeral by family and friends. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.
10. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
Examples of 5 Funerals Followed by Cremation

Candle in the Wind

This ceremony is for those whose life has touched the lives of others.

All of us have a need to be needed. Seldom do we come to understand how often our words or actions have so deeply affected another that the other person has experienced a turning point or a milestone in their lives because of us. How strange it seems that just knowing someone has actually led us to where we are today—who we are, what we believe. And how stranger still when we come to realize how others have affected our lives and then in that immediate moment that follows to be overwhelmed by realizing how we have already impacted the lives of so many as well. This ceremony is to remember and reflect upon how others have affected our lives, and how different our lives would have been without them. Planning this funeral service, recall how your loved one served as a guiding light in your life, or how you were a guide to others.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

This casket is made of solid maple, with a polished caramel finish. The interior is pictured with an ice pink velvet interior. For purpose of cremation, this casket is made of combustible material, yet beautifully detailed for the visitation and the funeral service. This cremation casket is pictured above.
The Cremation Urn

This Cremation Urn is used to enclose and protect the cremated remains. The Cremation Urn is solid black walnut, however 11 different types of wood, from all over the world, comprise the 61 different pieces that create the inlaid image on the front of the Urn. Your name, and your dates of birth and death, will be engraved on the Urn. This urn can be displayed in a family member's home, placed in a cremation niche at a cemetery, or buried at a cemetery.

Keepsake Pendant

One (1) keepsake pendant will be provided to your closest relative. The pendant is designed to hold a very small portion of your cremated remains. The pendant enables the surviving family member to literally hold you close to them forever. If your family member would be uncomfortable having your cremated remains in the pendant, the pendant can instead hold a lock or your hair, or simply remain empty. If your family desires additional pendants, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Your Clothing

You may be buried in any clothing you desire. You will select/describe your clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.
The Obituary
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact that your visitation and funeral is being conducted with a “Candle Theme” and suggest that gifts or flowers bear candle images to complement the theme.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
A book, bearing a picture of a lit candle on its cover, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The image of a lit candle shall be incorporated into one of the pages of the Memorial Folders.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life and milestones you achieved. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations,
both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your candle theme: Candles, custom candles, candles in various types of candle holders, religious items bearing the image of a lighted candle, etc. Plus, the mementoes should also include all other aspects of your life, such as your graduation diploma, wedding license, bicycle, golf bag…there should be no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends in family in relating and communicating to others what they remember best or most about you.

Music
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

By Candle Light
The entire room where your casket is displayed for the visitation will be lit only by candles.
A Solitary Candle

An embossed, solitary, lighted candle will be placed at the foot-end of your casket. This Embossed Candle shall represent the light you have provided in guiding and positively affecting the lives of others.

Children’s Candles
Each child who attends the visitation will be asked (with the aid of an adult) to light a candle in your memory. A special table will be set up to hold just the candles of the children. The funeral directors will assist and supervise the children as each of them light one candle.
Candle Gifts
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring a candle of any size or shape to the funeral. The candles will be held by these same family members and friends during the funeral, and will be lit during the final minutes of the funeral. You can decide later in the Special Directions section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to flowers.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral.

Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a candle. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders
Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a candle. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memory Board/Register Book/Memorial Folders/Embossed Candle
The Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders and the Embossed Candle will be brought to the place of the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help your family and friends recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.
One Last Chance To See You
On the day of the funeral your casket will be set up to provide friends and family one last chance to see you. This is particularly important for those who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me*, sung by Elton John.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything which has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

At this point, everyone will light the candle they have brought to the funeral. Everyone will be asked to say a silent prayer for you. In addition, each person will be reminded to take their candle home and place it in a prominent spot in their home. They will be instructed that whenever they light the candle they must take just a few moments to be reminded of something you said to them, or something you did for them, that they will always remember.

Because you will be cremated, at the end of the funeral the person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Commital—committing your earthly remains to a permanent resting place. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your Cremation Urn as a gesture of the Commital. Other family members will be asked to place candle figures/, flower petals, entire flowers in your casket as their gesture of the Commital.

The funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each Casket Bearer shall remove their miniature candle lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

Your funeral director will then step up to your closest relative and present them with a duplicate of the Embossed Candle that was lit at the visitation to represent your life.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:
A service of

A Candle in the Wind, sung by Elton John.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will again come down the aisle to your casket, turn the casket and begin pushing it down the aisle. They will be followed by the casket bearers, who will be followed by family and friends. The casket will be pushed to the door and the casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse. Your casket will be transported to the crematory. Approximately a day later, your funeral director will deliver your cremated remains, in the Cremation Urn, to your family.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Home Memorial or Grave Monument
Your small permanent home memorial in the form of a candle or a work of art, or grave monument, can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the Cash Fund section in this Funeral Plan to pay for the food and beverages.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred (100) Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of an Angel. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s)
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. The Cremation Urn will be given to your next-of-kin.
9. The Keepsake Pendant. Your funeral director will place a small quantity of your cremated remains in each pendant.
10. A duplicate of the Embossed Candle placed near your casket which will be given to your closest next-of-kin.
11. Each person will have the candle they lit at the funeral ceremony.
12. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
For Dad’s and Grandpa’s Everywhere  
_This ceremony is for the men who have been the role models for all of us._

Whether you were dad, father, grandpa or grandfather, the word conjures great and different meaning in all of us. These men influenced our lives in many ways. They loved us and we looked up to them. They picked us up and held us when we were hurt. And gave us the guidance we needed when we were troubled. This theme speaks to those attributes and strengths.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

**The Casket**

Your casket is photographed above. This casket is constructed of 1-inch, solid, premium oak stock, in York, Pennsylvania. The scrolling on the top and base molding are actually hand-cut by craftsman. The interior is of suntan premium velvet.
The Cremation Urn

This Cremation Urn is used to enclose and protect the cremated remains. The Cremation Urn is solid bronze with a flared base. The image of an Angel will be applied to the face of the urn, with your name, and your dates of birth and death, engraved on the urn. This urn can be displayed in a family members home, placed in a cremation niche at a cemetery, or buried at a cemetery.

Keepsake Pendant

One (1) keepsake pendant will be provided to your closest relative. The pendant is designed to hold a very small portion of your cremated remains. The pendant enables the surviving family member to literally hold you close to them forever. If your family member would be uncomfortable having your cremated remains in the pendant, the pendant can instead hold a lock or your hair, or simply remain empty. If your family desires additional pendants, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Your Clothing
You may be buried in any clothing you desire. You will select/describe your clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.
The Obituary
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
A book will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, and favorite photographs. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your experience. There should be no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.
Music
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

A Note to Dad or Grandpa
The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. Children may prefer to write a thought of, or goodbye to, you. The children will be asked to sign their pictures or note, and all of the notes will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to express themselves to either father or grandfather.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt, loss, and grief.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral. Approximately ten minutes prior to the beginning of the funeral, your family together with whoever is officiating at your funeral, whether it be a minister, priest, a family friend or a family member, will gather together for a few minutes of quiet meditation or prayer.

Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a yellow rose. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be
provided with a special lapel appliqué of a yellow rose. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

**Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders**

Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

**Video**

The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

**The Funeral Begins**

With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, we suggest:

*My Fathers Eyes: sung by Eric Clapton, from the CD - Pilgrim.*

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, and then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the **Special Directions** section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything which has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the **Special Directions** section in this Funeral Plan.

Because you will be cremated, at the end of the funeral the person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Committal—committing your earthly remains to a permanent resting place. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your Cremation Urn as a gesture of the Committal. Other family members will be asked to place candle figures/, flower petals, entire flowers in your casket as their gesture of the Committal.

The funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each Casket Bearer shall remove their miniature yellow rose lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.
The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*Memories*, sung by Elvis Presley.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will again come down the aisle to your casket, turn the casket and begin pushing it down the aisle. They will be followed by the casket bearers, who will be followed by family and friends. The casket will be pushed to the door and the casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse. Your casket will be transported to the crematory. Approximately a day later, your funeral director will deliver your cremated remains, in the Cremation Urn, to your family.

**This will conclude the ceremony.**

**Home Memorial or Grave Monument**
Your small permanent home memorial in the form of a candle or a work of art, or grave monument, can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called *My Epitaph*.

**Gathering of Friends and Family**
Following the funeral, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the *Cash Fund* section in this Funeral Plan to pay for the food and beverages.

**Thank You Cards**
Your family will be provided with one hundred (100) Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of an Angel. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

**Keepsakes**
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s).
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Color copies of a sampling of the angel drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
8. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
9. The Cremation Urn will be given to your next-of-kin.
10. The Keepsake Pendant. Your funeral director will place a small quantity of your cremated remains in each pendant.
11. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
For Mom’s and Grandma’s everywhere
This ceremony is for the women who have shaped us and shaped the world.

Whether you were mom, mother, grandma or grandmother, the word conjures great and different meaning in all of us. The special influence you have had on the development of children and grandchildren, and you are the one who made a house a home. The strengths you have taken for granted, have become part and parcel to what your children, your grandchildren, and even their friends may be today. This theme speaks to those attributes and strengths.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

This casket is made of maple, with a light pink interior. For purpose of cremation, this casket is made of combustible material, yet beautifully detailed for the visitation and the funeral service. This cremation casket is pictured above.
The Cremation Urn

This Cremation Urn is used to enclose and protect the cremated remains. The Cremation Urn is solid maple with a rose ribbon. Your name, and your dates of birth and death, will be engraved on the urn. This urn can be displayed in a family members home, placed in a cremation niche at a cemetery, or buried at a cemetery.

Keepsake Pendant

One (1) keepsake pendant will be provided to your closest relative. The pendant is designed to hold a very small portion of your cremated remains. The pendant enables the surviving family member to literally hold you close to them forever. If your family member would be uncomfortable having your cremated remains in the pendant, the pendant can instead hold a lock or your hair, or simply remain empty. If your family desires additional pendants, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Your Clothing

You may be cremated in your favorite dress, or choose any clothing you desire. You will select you clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan. Your attire is ones normal dress, underclothing, stockings, shoes, etc.
The Obituary
The funeral home staff will write your obituary unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
A book will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, and favorite photographs. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your experience. There should be no limit to the
imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.

**Music**
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan.

**A Note to Mom or Grandma**
The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. Children may prefer to write a thought of, or a goodbye to, you. The children will be asked to sign their pictures or note, and all of the items will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to express themselves to either mother or grandmother.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through feelings of hurt, loss, and grief.

**The Funeral**

**Place**
You will select the place of your funeral in the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral. Approximately ten minutes prior to the beginning of the funeral, your family together with whoever is officiating at your funeral, whether it be a minister, priest, a family friend or a family member, will gather together for a few minutes of quiet meditation or prayer.

**Casket Bearers**
The Casket Bearers will be named under the *Special Directions* section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a single rose. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

**Honorary Casket Bearers**
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another
four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a single rose. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*I’ll Be Seeing You*, sung by Tony Bennett.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. They will be led by the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers. Your closest family members will be following the casket. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors will seat the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers, position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then seat your family. The funeral directors will then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of motherhood in your life. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything that has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Because you will be cremated, at the end of the funeral the person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Committal— committing your earthly remains to a permanent resting place. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your Cremation Urn as a gesture of the Committal. Other family members will be asked to place candle figures/, flower petals, entire flowers in your casket as their gesture of the Committal.
The funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each Casket Bearer shall remove their miniature single rose lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*My Heart Will Go On*, sung by Celine Dion (Song from the movie: “Titanic”)

The Honorary Casket Bearers will be directed by your funeral director to lead the processional down the aisle and out of the building, followed by the Casket Bearers, followed by your funeral directors pushing your casket. Family and friends will be asked to follow your casket down the aisle. The casket will be pushed to the door and the Casket Bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse. Your casket will be transported to the crematory. Approximately a day later, your funeral director will deliver your cremated remains, in the Cremation Urn, to your family.

**This will conclude the ceremony.**

**Home Memorial or Grave Monument**

Your small permanent home memorial in the form of a candle or a work of art, or grave monument, can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called *My Epitaph*.

**Gathering of Friends and Family**

Following the funeral, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the *Cash Fund* section in this Funeral Plan to pay for the food and beverages.

**Thank You Cards**

Your family will be provided with one hundred (100) Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of an Angel. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

**Keepsakes**

There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s).
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.

7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.

8. Color copies of a sampling of the golfing drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.

9. The Cremation Urn will be given to your closest next-of-kin.

10. The Keepsake Pendant will be given to your closest next of kin. Your funeral director will place a small quantity of your cremated remains in the pendant.

11. All of the images of the golfers that were brought to the visitation and funeral by friends and family. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.

12. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
The Hunter

This ceremony is for the men and women who enjoy the sport of hunting.

It can be said that hunting is ingrained in us since we have hunted since the beginning of time. But today, hunting is about sport. A sport that most enjoy in groups to build and bond friendship and family. Hunting is a sport most often handed down from one generation to the next. With the elder generation teaching the younger about what sport means, as well as what safety and environmental balance and protection mean. Remembering the great discussions that occurred in passing the time waiting in the tree stand or the duck blind. This theme is designed to reflect upon the life of the person who has found excitement and passion in the art and sport of the hunt.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

Many of the great hunting places are inhabited with pine trees. This casket is made of pine, with a light tan interior. For purpose of cremation, this casket is made of combustible material, yet beautifully detailed for the visitation and the funeral service. This cremation casket is pictured above.

The Cremation Urn

This Cremation Urn is used to enclose and protect the cremated remains. The Cremation Urn is solid bronze with a flared base. The image of a pine tree will be applied to the face of the urn,
with your name, and your dates of birth and death, engraved on the urn. This urn can be displayed in a family members home, placed in a cremation niche at a cemetery, or buried at a cemetery.

**Keepsake Pendant**

One (1) keepsake pendant will be provided to your closest relative. The pendant is designed to hold a very small portion of your cremated remains. The pendant enables the surviving family member to literally hold you close to them forever. If your family member would be uncomfortable having your cremated remains in the pendant, the pendant can instead hold a lock or your hair, or simply remain empty. If your family desires additional pendants, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

**Your Clothing**

You may be buried in a favorite hunting out-fit—yes, even your camouflage fatigues and hunting boots—or choose any clothing you desire. You will select you clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

**Your Obituary**

You are able to write your own obituary, and save it in the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan, or have the funeral home write it for you. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact your visitation and funeral are being conducted with a “Hunting Theme” and suggest that gifts or flowers bear your hunting theme.

**The Visitation**

**Place**

The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.
Register Book
A book, bearing the image of a fisherman on its cover, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover, either a formal portrait or a picture taken of you on one of your hunting trips. Inside the front cover will be a bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, favorite duck slough, and of you and your friends and family showing off your hunting trophies. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your hunting experiences. Here is the ideal place for your decoy bag to stand, individual decoys set around the room, your hunting bow, or shotguns, blaze orange vest, stuffed hunting trophies, etc. There is no limit to the imagination, of items that are meaningful to your friends and family in relating and communicating to others what they feel.

Music
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. In addition, “Nature Sounds” will be played in the background to hear the call of the loon, and other beautiful sounds of nature. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.
Hunting Gear

Some element of your hunting gear will be placed in the casket with you. This could be a duck, goose or deer call, your hunting bow, a shotgun, etc. One of these items will be placed in your hands. Just prior to going to the crematory, the funeral director will remove this item from the casket and return it to your family.

Animal Pictures
Each child who attends the visitation or funeral will be asked to draw a picture of an animal which is the subject of sport hunting, elk, deer, duck, etc. which will be displayed along with other mementos on the Memory Table. The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. The children will be asked to sign their pictures, and all of the pictures will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to give happy hunting through eternity.

Animal Gifts
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring small images of animals that you hunted for sport to the visitation or funeral. These can be in the form of jewelry (pins, pendants, necklaces, rings), miniature statuary, a decoy or pictures. These will be displayed on the Memory Table and also around, and on, your casket. You can decide later in the Special Directions section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to real flowers.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt and loss and grief.

The Funeral

Place
You will select the place of your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral, normally that is late afternoon and early evening.
Casket Bearers
The Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. This will be a perfect place to involve the rest of the people in the hunting parties you commonly participated in. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a deer, duck or goose (whichever animal was your favorite to hunt). This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Honorary Casket Bearers
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of a deer, duck or goose (whichever animal was your favorite to hunt). This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders
Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

Video
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

Morning Has Broken, sung by Cat Stevens.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle. They will be led by the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers. Your closest family members will be following the casket. Upon reaching the front of the room your funeral directors will seat the Casket Bearers and Honorary Casket Bearers, position your casket sideways at the very front of the room, then seat your family. The funeral directors will then proceed back down the aisle.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise
and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything that has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Because you will be cremated, at the end of the funeral the person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Committal—committing your earthly remains to a permanent resting place. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your casket as a gesture of the Committal. Other family members will be asked to place fishing figures/images, flower petals, entire flowers in your casket as their gesture of the Committal.

Your funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature fish lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

Don’t Let The Sun Go Down on Me, sung by Elton John.

The Honorary Casket Bearers will be directed by your funeral director to lead the processional down the aisle and out of the building, followed by the Casket Bearers, followed by your funeral directors pushing your casket. Family and friends will be asked to follow your casket down the aisle. The casket will be pushed to the door and the Casket Bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse. Your casket will be transported to the crematory. Approximately a day later, your funeral director will deliver your cremated remains, in the Cremation Urn, to your family.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Home Memorial or Grave Monument
Your small permanent home memorial in the form of a candle or a work of art, or grave monument, can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the Cash Fund section in this Funeral Plan to pay for the food and beverages.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred (100) Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide
your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of an Angel. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

**Keepsakes**

There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. **Register Book.**
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s)
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. Color copies of a sampling of the hunting drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
9. The Cremation Urn will be given to your closest next-of-kin.
10. The Keepsake Pendant will be given to your closest next of kin. Your funeral director will place a small quantity of your cremated remains in this urn.
11. All of the images of the golfers that were brought to the visitation and funeral by friends and family. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.
12. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.
The Rose

This ceremony is for anyone who finds the Rose flower to be a symbol of beauty, grace and love.

We all have hobbies and interest outside our work and family environment. Rose gardening has grown in popularity to such an extent that often the rose is the very first thing we think of when a persons name is mentioned. But a rose has grown to have meaning for all of us, the world over. The gift of a rose is a symbol of kindness, friendship, and most often, love. Let the symbol of the Rose speak to you and to others.

This is what the visitation and funeral will be like for the family and friends that will always remember you.

The Casket

This casket is made of maple, with a light pink interior. A ribbon of roses can be seen in the interior of the open lid. For purpose of cremation, this casket is made of combustible material, yet beautifully detailed for the visitation and the funeral service. This cremation casket is pictured above.
The Cremation Urn

This Cremation Urn is used to enclose and protect the cremated remains. The Cremation Urn is solid maple with a rose ribbon. Your name, and your dates of birth and death, will be engraved on the urn. This urn can be displayed in a family member's home, placed in a cremation niche at a cemetery, or buried at a cemetery.

Keepsake Pendant

One (1) keepsake pendant will be provided to your closest relative. The pendant bears the insignia of a rose and is designed to hold a very small portion of your cremated remains. The
A service of

pendant enables the surviving family member to literally hold you close to them forever. If your family member would be uncomfortable having your cremated remains in the pendant, the pendant can instead hold a lock or your hair, or simply remain empty. If your family desires additional pendants, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Your Clothing
You may be cremated in your favorite dress, or choose any clothing you desire. You will select your clothing in the Clothing section in this Funeral Plan.

The Obituary
Your obituary will be written by the funeral home staff unless you have written your own obituary under the My Obituary section in this Funeral Plan. The information you provide in this Funeral Plan will also be used as part of the information to be included in your obituary. Your obituary will also describe the fact your visitation and funeral are being conducted with a "Rose Theme" and suggest that gifts or flowers bear rose images to complement the theme.

The Visitation

Place
The visitation will be held at the funeral home you select later in this funeral planning process. The funeral home can be changed at any time in the future in the event you would move or change your mind.

Register Book
Your guest register book, with an insignia of a rose on the front cover, will be used for friends and family to write their name and addresses as a reference for your family to use to send Thank You cards, but also as a keepsake for recalling the images of the funeral.

Memorial Candles
These candles contain an image of the deceased embossed on a themed background. Normally these are lit and displayed at the visitation near the casket and in other areas of the chapel. These candles are then kept as keepsakes bestowed after the funeral.

Memorial Art
Framed art pieces of a theme, story, or profession that was special to the deceased, family, and friends that express something that these lives touched all have in common. The art possesses an image of the deceased placed with an oval die cut, expressing their role in the theme expressed in the art itself.

Memorial Folders
Folders will be handed out to friends and family. The folders will have your picture on the front cover. Inside the front cover will be bible verse, or a quote or a saying that you specify in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Memory Picture Board
Family and friends will be asked by your funeral director to gather pictures to be brought to the funeral home to be placed on tables, easels and walls for display at the visitation the night before the funeral. The pictures should depict all ages of your life, milestones, and
photographs. This Memory Board(s) will be given to your family at the conclusion of the funeral.

Memory Table
In addition, family and friends will be asked to bring in mementos that remind them of you. These mementos will be displayed on tables and other areas throughout the visitation chapel. The pictures and mementos will conjure up memories of you that will create the conversations, both happy and sad, that are needed as part of the experience of grieving. These mementos should include items that are related to your angel theme: Angel statuary, religious items bearing the image of an angel, etc. Plus, the mementoes should also include all other aspects of your life, such as your graduation diploma, wedding license, bicycle, golf bag...there should be no limit to the imagination of items that are meaningful to your friends in family in relating and communicating to others what they remember best or most about you.

Music
Soft background music will fill the room. It will be the music you have selected to reflect who you are and what you want everyone to know about you. The music will fill the void when silence has become the best communication of support and comfort that inevitably becomes the bond between all who have gathered in memory of you. You may direct which additional songs will be played during your funeral under the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Rose Flower
A single red rose will be pinned on the right side of your chest, or in the interior panel of the casket lid, as you lay in your casket. Just prior to going to the crematory, the funeral director will remove this item from the casket and return it to your family.

Rose Pictures
Each child who attends the visitation or funeral will be asked to draw a picture of red roses which will be displayed along with the actual roses surrounding your casket. The funeral home will provide the children with paper, pencils and crayons and a place to create these wonderful, meaningful images. The children will be asked to sign their pictures, and all of the pictures will be placed in your casket as a way for the children to give roses as well.
**Rose Gifts**
In your obituary, family and friends will be asked to bring small images of roses to the visitation or funeral. These can be in the form of jewelry (pins, pendants, necklaces, rings), miniature statuary, or pictures, or artificial or live roses. These will be displayed on the Memory Table and also around, and on, your casket. You can decide later in the **Special Directions** section if these types of gifts should be brought instead of or in addition to real flowers.

The visitation will be for a three-hour period the night before the funeral at the funeral home. Typically, your funeral director will reserve the first hour of visitation for family members. This provides your family with the opportunity to initially see you and grieve as a family. This time cannot be made easy, because it is not easy, but it is critical in leading everyone through their feelings of hurt and loss and grief.

**The Funeral**

**Place**
You will select the place of your funeral in the **Special Directions** section in this Funeral Plan.

On the day following the visitation, your family, working closely with your funeral director, will have chosen the time of day for your funeral ceremony to best accommodate the time schedules of all of the people who wish to attend your funeral.

**Casket Bearers**
The Casket Bearers will be named under the **Special Directions** section in this Funeral Plan.
Family members can serve as casket bearers and be with the family as well. You can have six or eight casket bearers. The Casket Bearers are often seated together as further recognition of the important role they are playing in your funeral. Each of the Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of an angel. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

**Honorary Casket Bearers**
If you want to make others feel included in the process, many people can also be named Honorary Casket Bearers. This list can be as short or as long as you desire, often it is another four, six or eight individuals. The Honorary Casket Bearers are also seated together in recognition of their role in your funeral. The Honorary Casket Bearers will be named under the **Special Directions** section in this Funeral Plan. Each of the Honorary Casket Bearers will be provided with a special lapel appliqué of an angel. This special appliqué will be used later in the funeral.

**Memorial Art / Memory Board / Register Book / Memorial Folders**
Memorial Art, Memory Board(s), Register Book and Memorial Folders will be brought to the funeral. This is particularly important for those individuals who could not attend the visitation the day before the funeral.

**Video**
The funeral will be videotaped. The tape shall also include views of the Memory Board(s) and Memory Table(s). One copy of the tape will be given to your family. This tape can be played at a later date to help you recall memories of the event. In addition, family and friends can
purchase additional copies through the funeral home. Also, this video can be sent to family or friends who were unable to attend the funeral.

The Funeral Begins
With family and friends gathered on both sides of the aisle, your casket rests upon a wheeled casket bier at the back of the room. To begin the ceremony, the following song will be played:

*Knocking on Heaven’s Door*, sung by Bob Dylan.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will push your casket down the aisle, led by honorary pallbearers made up of friends or relatives walking ahead of your casket. Upon reaching the front of the room, honorary pallbearers will step to the right side while your funeral directors position your casket sideways at the very front of the room.

Name the person you would like to lead and officiate at your funeral in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan. The person officiating at your funeral will then engage the audience with their own chosen words to convey a brief history of your life, and the importance of your life to others. Audience members will then be asked to volunteer to rise and speak about you—a vivid memory, an event—anything that has meaning to them in reflecting upon your impact on their life or the lives of others.

You may also ask a friend or family member to read something you have written for the purpose of being read at your funeral. Include these elements in the Special Directions section in this Funeral Plan.

Because you will be cremated, at the end of the funeral the person officiating shall provide words of empathy and comfort to those who have assembled followed by their own words, a bible verse, a prayer a poem which is referred to as the Committal—committing your earthly remains to a permanent resting place. A family member will be asked to pour a small amount of soil on the top of your casket as a gesture of the Committal. Other family members will be asked to place rose flower petals or entire rose flowers in your casket as their gesture of the Committal.

Your funeral director will ask the Casket Bearers to follow him to the side of the casket, where, one-by-one, each casket bearer shall remove their miniature angel lapel stick-on appliqué and place them in order on the top of the casket in the form of a cross.

The ceremony will close by playing the following song:

*The Rose*, sung by Bette Midler.

While the music plays, your funeral directors will again come down the aisle to your casket, turn the casket and begin pushing it down the aisle. They will be followed by the casket bearers, who will be followed by family and friends. The casket will be pushed to the door and the casket bearers will carry the casket to the awaiting hearse. Your casket will be transported to the crematory. Approximately a day later, your funeral director will deliver your cremated remains, in the Cremation Urn, to your family.
This will conclude the ceremony.

Home Memorial or Grave Monument
Your small permanent home memorial in the form of a candle or a work of art, or grave monument, can be purchased on our site at a later date. However, you can record the words and information you would like to have written on your monument by going to the section in this Funeral Plan called My Epitaph.

Gathering of Friends and Family
Following the funeral, friends and family will gather together to reminisce about how your life touched them. Food and beverages will be ordered at that time. Consider putting additional money into the Cash Fund section in this Funeral Plan to pay for the food and beverages.

Thank You Cards
Your family will be provided with one hundred (100) Thank You Cards to be used in conjunction with the Register Book, sympathy cards and floral arrangement cards to provide your family the ability to thank all those who showed their support and gave their respects at the time of your death. The Thank You Cards shall also bear the insignia of an Angel. If your family needs additional Thank You Cards, they can be purchased from the funeral home.

Keepsakes
There are a number of keepsakes your family will be presented with following the funeral:

1. Register Book.
2. Memorial Candles containing images of the deceased in an appropriate theme to be gifted to selected family members and friends after the service.
3. Memorial Art containing the image of the deceased to be bestowed as an heirloom passed from generation to generation.
4. Memorial Folders. These should be divided between family members to share with their own family members or friends.
5. Memory Board(s)
6. Video of the Funeral. Additional copies may be ordered from the funeral home following the funeral.
7. Obituary. You will receive several copies of the obituary which will have been laminated for preservation and safe-keeping.
8. Color copies of a sampling of the rose drawings made by the children packaged into a small booklet.
9. The Cremation Urn will be given to your next-of-kin.
10. The Rose Keepsake Pendant which will be given to your closest next-of-kin.
11. All of the images of the roses that were brought to the visitation and funeral by friends and family. Typically, these will be divided among close family members.
12. Flower cards from each of the floral arrangements sent for your funeral.