

I.C.MARK LTD

Serving the Local Community since 1972

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

ADD A PERSONAL TOUCH TO A FUNERAL

A funeral or memorial service needs to be carefully and sensitively arranged so it reflects the feelings of the person who has died and fulfils the needs of their family. It represents the first and most important step towards working through one's grief and adjusting to life, without that person present.

People need to be comfortable with the decisions made. Using carefully chosen symbols, music and poems can enhance the significant importance of a person's life and help create a very personal tribute in the service. Photos and flowers add to the ambience as well.

Symbols

You may wish to consider the following as possible symbols to use during the ceremony. Candles – as a symbol of love and light, bringing hope.

A flag draped over the casket – a person's country of birth or as an RSA tribute, or club affiliation. Sporting awards, community pastimes, academic awards, craft pleasures, or hobbies. Artefacts of the life of the person whose life is being honoured.

The releasing of balloons, or the placing of petals or rosemary (the herb of remembrance) on the casket, at the conclusion of the service.



Music

Music speaks from the heart – especially during a funeral service. The way it tunes into the service can have a dramatic bearing on the service itself. It can be played from a phone, CD or from the funeral directors collection, can be sung by a choir or soloist, or maybe an instrumental tribute.

Flowers

A casket spray can be designed also to be a tribute to a loved one and can include foliage and flowers that have a special meaning. They don't have to include flowers, but could be a beach, fern, or vegetable theme, just to mention a few. These can be designed by a professional florist or can be supplied by the family.



Service Sheets

These are personalised and usually have a photo of your loved one on the front, the order of service and anything else the family require. They are usually taken home by the congregation and some are kept for many years as a memoriam.

Visual Presentations

Slideshows are often played at funeral services to reflect the life of your loved one. Such a presentation can be a meaningful way to share more memories and highlights of a life.

Tribute Book

It is not easy to see and talk with everyone who attends a funeral on the day. A good way of a record of those in attendance is to have a tributes book. Everyone that attends the funeral service is asked to sign this and it is retained by the family for years to come.

On Line Tribute Book (www.tributes.co.nz)

This is also another way to honour the life of the deceased. A photo and funeral details are placed on line and invite friends and family to place their own personal tribute.

Live Stream

These days because of Covid restrictions there has been a dramatic increase for the need to stream the funeral service. Many families cannot participate in the funeral service because of travel restrictions and also attendees choose to watch the service from home because of the limited numbers allowed at services. Live stream involves setting up a link. At the time of the service the link will be operational and those unable to attend can click on the link and observe the funeral service from afar in real time.

Clergy or Celebrant

Funeral Celebrants can provide a service that is appropriate to the needs and cultural beliefs of the family and provide a service to the family requirements.

The Funeral Director makes contact with the Celebrant or Minister for the family and maintains contact with them leading up to the service. Family members may also take on the role of leading the funeral.

Venue

If the person who has died was a member of a religious denomination, often the funeral service will be held in their local church. You may wish to have the service in the Funeral Director's chapel, or have another venue that was significant to the family, being the family home, farm, local community hall.

Summary

There is no real right or wrong in Funeral Service, as long as the family or persons arranging the service are comfortable with the way in which the service all comes together.



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