

My Funeral Instructions:

Guidance for the Parish and Family

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we, too, shall be raised. The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn. (The Book of Common Prayer p. 507)

Baptized Christians are properly buried from the church. The service should be held at a time when the congregation has opportunity to be present. The coffin is to be closed before the service, and it remains closed thereafter. It is appropriate that it be covered with a pall or other suitable covering. (The Book of Common Prayer p. 490)

Services are to be conducted at:

_____ (Parish Church), (City or Town).

Full Name _____

In the course of the service the name of the one who died is used often. What name would you like used? _____

Please use
_____ The Burial of the Dead: Rite One (BCP p. 469) ___ The Burial of the Dead: Rite Two (BCP p. 491)

I would like The Holy Eucharist to be celebrated as a part of the service. ___ Yes ___ No

I would like a Visitation before the Service ___ Yes ___ No
Location: Funeral Home ___ Other _____

If the Holy Eucharist is celebrated:

would like the following people to serve as Eucharistic Ministers
(Chalice Bearers): 1) _____

2) _____

Music: Please list any hymns you would like sung: The Episcopal Hymnal 1982 contains an extensive selection of beautiful and appropriate sacred music for use in the Service. We recommend that three or four hymns be sung: at the opening procession; before the Gospel reading; as the altar is prepared during the offertory; and at the end of the service.

- 1-
- 2-
- 3-
- 4-

The Liturgy of the Word

(Please choose one from each of the following categories)

a. Old Testament

- a. Isaiah 25:6-9 (He will swallow up death in victory)
- b. Isaiah 61:1-3 (To comfort all that mourn)
- c. Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 (The Lord is good unto that that wait for him)
- d. Wisdom 3:1-5, 9 (The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God)
- e. Job 19:21-27a (I know that my Redeemer lives)

b. Psalm

- a. Psalm 23, Psalm 27, Psalm 42, Psalm 46, Psalm 90, Psalm 106, Psalm 116, Psalm 121, Psalm 130, Psalm 139

c. New Testament

- a. Romans 8:14-19 (The glory that shall be revealed)
- b. I Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58 (Raised in incorruption)
- c. II Corinthians 4:16-5:9 (Things which are not seen are eternal)
- d. I John 3:1-2 (We shall be like him)
- e. Revelation 7:9-17 (God shall wipe away all tears)
- f. Revelation 21:2-7 (Behold, I make all things new)

d. Gospel

- a. John 5:24-27 (He that believes has everlasting life)
- b. John 6:37-40 (All that the Father gives me shall come to me)
- c. John 10: 11-16 (I am the good shepherd)
- d. John 11:21-27 (I am the resurrection and the life)
- e. John 14:1-6 (In my Father's house are many mansions)

I would like my remains _____ 1) buried in a casket
_____ 2) cremated

If cremated, do you wish for the ashes to be interred into the church columbarium? ___Y___ N

If buried, name of cemetery: _____

I have received information about the parish columbarium: ___Y___ N

When would you prefer the committal of ashes/body to occur:

___ Before the Burial Service ___ After the burial Service ___ At a separate time

Do you have any requests regarding military honors? _____

Do you have any preference with regard to memorial gifts?

Have you made arrangements previously with a mortuary or burial society? ___ Y ___ N

Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Telephone: _____

My next of kin is (name, address, phone)

Name

Address

Phone #

Who do you want to be present when final arrangements are made with the church?

Name[s] _____ Phone: _____

Information about you

Date of birth: _____

Place of birth: _____

Full Name, including middle/maiden:

Date: _____

Signature: _____

These instructions should be placed on file at the church and a copy given to a close friend or relative.