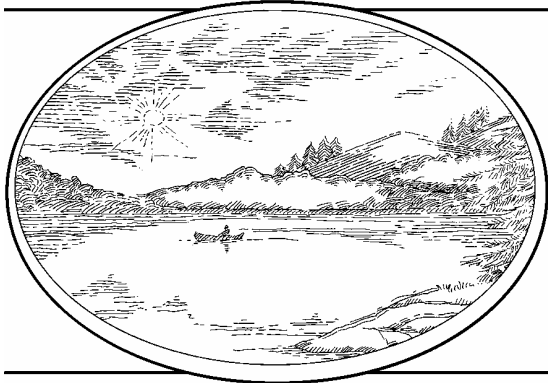


MEMORIAL SERVICE

at

THE VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NORTHBROOK

IN LOVING



MEMORY



Grief



The emotional response to loss is grief—a natural reaction and process that involves several stages. At the time of the memorial service most people are still in the beginning stages of shock and numbness as they cope with the death of a significant person. Other stages include denial, anger, guilt, pain, and readjustment. Most people take twelve to eighteen months to readjust to this change in their lives. The Ministers, Stephen Ministers, and staff gladly offer assistance to people as they cope with death and loss.

The Service

A memorial service assists friends and family in expressing grief and sorrow for a person they loved within the context of worship. One of the ministers works with family members to design a worship service that celebrates the life of the deceased and uses Scriptures and prayers to offer strength, support and hope for those who are grieving. The minister develops a meditation that acknowledges the importance of the life of the deceased and offers encouragement and comfort to the worshipers. A bulletin will be provided for the memorial service.

Scripture

Often people find comfort and support in the Scriptures. Passages that many have found helpful include: Psalm 23; Isaiah 40:28-31; John 14:1-7, 25-31; Romans 8:31-39; 1 Corinthians 13; 2 Corinthians 4:7-15; and Revelation 21:1-4.

Eulogy

Occasionally, a family member or a close friend is asked to share some words of remembrance during the memorial service. This is an appropriate but often difficult assignment. The eulogist is wise to prepare a written form of the remarks and to limit the presentation to three to four minutes. It is also helpful to coordinate the nature and content of these remarks with the minister.

Music

Music is an integral part of a memorial service and may include any or all of the following: prelude, postlude, hymns, and solo(s). There is a fee for the organist and soloist.

Guest Register

Family and friends attending the memorial service provide valuable support and encouragement during a time of sadness and loss. Having a record of their presence will offer additional support in the days and weeks after the service. The funeral home usually provides a guest register which is displayed at the entrance to the sanctuary. Guests are encouraged to sign the register.

Interment

Interment may be in a cemetery or members of The Village Presbyterian Church may have their cremains interred in the Memorial Garden or Memorial Wall. The interment may occur prior or after the memorial service, either on that day or on a different day. For information and fees to acquire a lot in the Memorial Garden or niche in the Memorial Wall, please request the Memorial Garden brochure.

Reception

The family may schedule a reception following the memorial service. This is an opportunity for family and friends to offer their support. Either the Fireside Room or the Fellowship Hall may be used for this purpose. The Service Guild will provide and serve punch, coffee, tea and cookies. There is no fee for TVPC members for this service. A fee will be charged for non-members. If the family would prefer to have additional food, such as lunch or dinner, it is their responsibility for providing it.

Memorial Gifts

People often want to express their support for those who have experienced the loss of someone special to them in a tangible way. Over the years, memorial gifts for members and friends of the congregation have supported many aspects of the ministry of The Village Presbyterian Church. If you would like memorial gifts to be designated to the church, please indicate this in the obituary notice and in the memorial service bulletin.

Fees

Organist	\$150
Soloist	\$ 75 - \$100
Minister	Honorarium

Non-members only:

Building Use for Reception

\$ 75 – \$200, based on # people

Any additional Musicians are to be paid directly.



THE VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1300 Shermer Road
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