

Things to Consider After the Death of a Loved One

It is important to reach out for support and help during this time. You may have been preparing for this for some time and have arrangements made or it may be sudden and unexpected. In either case, it is likely that your feelings will be strong and deep and you will benefit from people around you helping to take care of some of the details. Our memorial coordinator can help with some details regarding the service, but a call to the Minister and to Lay Ministry can help to engage further support.

You may already have a service in mind. It is still important to spend time talking with the Minister and sharing your memories of your loved one so the Minister can know her or him better. The opportunity to share memories is helpful in itself. It does not erase the sorrow, but it can help ease the trauma and help gather resources for making sense in a time of loss.

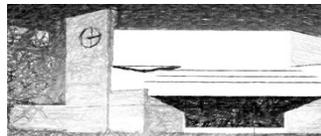
If you have not made plans for a service already, a conversation with the Minister can be very helpful in exploring options such as a funeral or memorial, a viewing, bringing the casket to the church or not, possible readings, who might speak, what things you might want to include to bring more personal significance to the service, options for music, which you can explore with our Music Director. You do not need to plan this alone.

Remember, a memorial service or funeral is a time for honoring personal meaning. Whatever feelings and complexities you bring to the planning of the service, we are honored to be a part of this challenging and important time in your life.

Church Memorial Grounds

Since April 1993, our church grounds have been used to memorialize members or their close relatives by the scattering of ashes and mounting brass plaques. In 2002, the Board of Trustees adopted a uniform policy to govern memorials of deceased loved ones. The policy is as follows:

1. Church grounds may be used to memorialize deceased members of the church or members' parents or children.
2. This may be accomplished by scattering ashes either over the entire church grounds or a selected spot on the church grounds. If you wish, our minister will conduct a service during the scattering of ashes.
3. A record of each memorial will be recorded on a brass marker, added to a memorial plaque mounted on a wall in the church narthex. The brass markers include the name, year of birth, and year of death of a deceased person.
4. A brass marker is available to memorialize a person for whom a memorial service has been conducted in the church even if the ashes are not scattered on the church grounds.
5. A charge of \$15 will be assessed to cover the cost of a memorial marker.



Memorials and Funerals at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist

*In the face of loss,
we continue our covenant
of kinship and our commitment to
reverence the power of life.*

1025 N Smith Rd· Palatine IL 60067
847-359-8440 · www.ccuu.org

The Reverend
Hilary Landau Krivchenia
Senior Minister



**Funeral and
Memorial Services**
at *Countryside Church*
Unitarian Universalist



Unitarian Universalists believe that every life is precious and unique and that every loss is unique as well. There is no one ritual that meets our human needs at a time of loss, thus our memorial services strive to honor the fullness of life, express the unique spirit of each person, and provide a time of healing for all who attend. Consideration is given both to the wishes of the person being honored and to the needs of family and friends to acknowledge and honor a loved one.

Loss is complex and grief is many-faceted.
Our Minister is available to help you make your way through this time and can

- *provide emotional support, information on funeral directors, cremation services, and advice on funeral and memorial arrangements;*
- *conduct an interment service;*
- *help you with counseling, ministry and guidance either at the time a loved one dies or even before he or she dies.*

To arrange for a funeral or memorial service, please contact the minister directly, to inform the minister about your loss and to begin to share your plans or talk through alternatives.

We also staff a memorial coordinator who can take some of the burden off your shoulders. Dates, music, and other arrangements will be made through the office with the help of the coordinator.

Flowers

If the family wishes to have a flower arrangement(s), they can contact the florist of their choice; please ask that flowers be delivered during church office hours or at a time when the memorial coordinator can receive them. Kinsch Village Florist in Palatine (847-359-1182) does flowers for Countryside on a regular basis, has access to the building, and is able to deliver any time.



Donations

There may be people who want to give donations in lieu of flowers. Of course, we encourage designating Countryside; special memorial envelopes are available to set out the day of the service. The family may also request donations be made to charitable organization(s) that further reflect the commitments of their loved ones. Let the minister know what those organizations are and we can have them printed in the order of service.

Coordinator's Role

The Memorial Coordinator facilitates all memorials held at the church in order to help both family and congregation. The coordinator makes sure the family's needs are met and that everything runs smoothly the day of the service, helps coordinate between the minister and family, accommodates floral and other deliveries or set-up, and generally relieves family members of the need to worry about the many logistics.

Fees for Funerals & Memorial Services

All fees should be payable to the church and given to the memorial coordinator. The church will distribute the fees as needed. If you are a church member in good standing for at least one year, contact the church office for member-specific information. In cases of financial challenge, fees may be waived or reduced by the Minister or Board.

Service only (no reception): \$700, includes

- services of the Memorial Coordinator
- use of the Sanctuary

Service and Basic Reception: \$900, includes

- services of the Memorial Coordinator
- use of the Sanctuary and Narthex or Social Hall, tables & coffee equipment for basic coffee-cookie reception. Arrangements should be made with a caterer to provide coffee, cream, food. Total length of service & reception not more than 3 hours.

Service and Reception lasting more than 3 hours will be an additional fee of \$50/hour.

Minister's Fees

Funeral or Memorial Service : \$250

- with committal or eulogy: \$300
- with committal and eulogy: \$350

When the service is held somewhere other than Countryside Church UU, there is an additional travel cost for the minister of \$0.585 per mile.

Other Fees

- Staff Musician: \$200; \$250 if a meeting with the family or coordination with other musicians in advance of the service is needed. For services held at Countryside Church UU, our staff musician has the right of first refusal to provide music for weddings, funerals, or memorials.
- Audio-visual support: \$45 (for anything beyond simple microphone use)
- Sexton Fee: \$25/hour (if assistance is needed to rearrange furniture or for set-up/clean-up)