



**BEWLEY**  
Funeral Directors Limited  
*Our Family are here for your family*



### Popular funeral poems

Some poems and words of comfort. You may like to have one of these read out at the service.

These writings are not original, but are collected from different sources, re-printed here for your use. We have many more available at our office.

## The Sailing Ship

What is dying?  
I am standing on the seashore.  
A ship sails to the morning breeze and starts for the ocean.  
She is an object and I stand watching her  
Till at last she fades from the horizon,  
And someone at my side says,  
"She is gone!" Gone where?  
Gone from my sight, that is all;  
She is just as large in the masts,  
hull and spars as she was when I saw her,  
And just as able to bear her load  
of living freight to its destination.  
The diminished size and total loss  
of sight is in me, not in her;  
And just at the moment when someone at my side says,  
"She is gone",  
There are others who are watching her coming,  
And other voices take up a glad shout,  
"There she comes" – and that is dying.  
**Bishop Charles Henry Brent**

## Farewell My Friends

It was beautiful As long as it lasted  
The journey of my life.  
I have no regrets Whatsoever said  
The pain I'll leave behind.  
Those dear hearts Who love and care...  
And the strings pulling At the heart and soul...  
The strong arms That held me up  
When my own strength Let me down.  
At the turning of my life I came across  
Good friends, Friends who stood by me  
Even when time raced me by.  
Farewell, farewell My friends  
I smile and Bid you goodbye.  
No, shed no tears For I need them not  
All I need is your smile.  
If you feel sad Do think of me  
For that's what I'll like When you live in the hearts  
Of those you love Remember then  
You never die.  
**Rabindranath Tagore**

## If I Should Go Before The Rest of You

If I should go before the rest of you,  
Break not a flower nor inscribe a stone.  
Nor when I'm gone speak in Sunday voice,  
But be the usual selves that I have known.  
Weep if you must,  
Parting is hell,  
But life goes on,  
So sing as well.  
**Joyce Grenfell**

## Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not for long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that once we shared  
Miss me, but let me go.  
For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the master plan  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go to the friends we know.  
Laugh at all the things we used to do  
Miss me, but let me go  
**Christina Georgina Rossetti**

## Indian Prayer

When I am dead  
Cry for me a little  
Think of me sometimes  
But not too much.  
Think of me now and again  
As I was in life  
At some moments it's pleasant to recall  
But not for long.  
Leave me in peace  
And I shall leave you in peace  
And while you live  
Let your thoughts be with the living.  
**Traditional**

## Remember

Remember me when I am gone away,  
Gone far away into a silent land;  
When you can no more hold me by the hand,  
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.  
Remember me when no more day be day  
You tell me of your future that you'd plann'd-  
Only remember me; you understand  
It will be late to counsel then or pray.  
Yet if you should forget me for a while  
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:  
For if the darkness and corruption leave  
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,  
Better by far that you should forget and smile  
Than you should remember and be sad.  
**Christina Rossetti**

## Think of Me

I am not gone,  
I never left,  
Though through your tears,  
You were bereft,  
For I am waiting,  
In the room next door,  
Where one day we'll be together  
Forever more.  
Think of me in a flower,  
Think of me in the rain,  
Think of me when you hear,  
The larks' sweet refrain,  
Enjoy the warm sunlight,  
I'll chase away the cold,  
Cherish what we shared,  
And your heart will never grow old.  
For this is my love,  
That I bestow on you,  
To be always there,  
In what ever you do,  
Walking in the breeze,  
Or watching the clouds sail by  
Just remember me,  
I never did die.  
**Andrew Grubersk**

## Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.  
I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.  
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly  
down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times and  
bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve,  
to dry before the sun;  
Of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

**Unknown**

## If I Should Go Tomorrow

If I should go tomorrow  
It would never be goodbye,  
For I have left my heart with you,  
So don't you ever cry.

The love that's deep within me,  
Shall reach you from the stars,  
You'll feel it from the heavens,  
And it will heal the scars.

**Unknown**

## You've Just Walked On Ahead of Me

And I've got to understand  
You must release the ones you love  
And let go of their hand.  
I try and cope the best I can  
But I'm missing you so much  
If I could only see you  
And once more feel your touch.  
Yes, you've just walked on ahead of me  
Don't worry I'll be fine  
But now and then I swear I feel  
Your hand slip into mine.

**Joyce Grenfell**

## When I'm Gone

When I come to the end of my journey  
And I travel my last weary mile  
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned  
And remember only the smile  
Forget unkind words I have spoken  
Remember some good I have done  
Forget that I ever had heartache  
And remember I've had loads of fun  
Forget that I've stumbled and blundered  
And sometimes fell by the way  
Remember I have fought some hard battles  
And won, ere the close of the day  
Then forget to grieve for my going  
I would not have you sad for a day  
But in summer just gather some flowers  
And remember the place where I lay  
And come in the shade of evening  
When the sun paints the sky in the west  
Stand for a few moments beside me  
And remember only my best

**Lyman Hancock**

## I am there

Look for me when the tide is high  
And the gulls are wheeling overhead  
When the autumn wind sweeps the cloudy sky  
And one by one the leaves are shed  
Look for me when the tide is high  
And the gulls are wheeling overhead  
When the autumn wind sweeps the cloudy sky  
And one by one the leaves are shed  
I am there, where the river flows  
And the salmon leap to a silver moon  
Where the insects hum and the tall grass grows  
And sunlight warms the afternoon  
I am there in the busy street  
I take your hand in the city square  
In the market place where the people meet  
In your quiet room – I am there  
I am the love you cannot see  
And all I ask is – look for me.

**Iris Hesselden**

## He (she) is Gone

You can shed tears that he is gone-  
Or you can smile because he has lived.  
You can close your eyes and pray that  
he will come back-  
Or you can open your eyes and see  
what he has left.  
Your heart can be empty because  
you can't see him-  
Or you can be full of the love you shared.  
You can turn your back on tomorrow  
and live for the past-  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow  
because of yesterday.  
You can remember him only that he is gone-  
Or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.  
You can cry and close your mind,  
Be empty and turn your back-  
Or you can do what he would want;  
Smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

**David Harkins**

## Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night

Do not go gentle into that good night  
Old age should burn and rave at the close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,  
Because their words had forked not lightning they  
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright  
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,  
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,  
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight  
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors be gay,  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you my father, there on the sad height,  
Curse, bless me now with fierce tears, I pray.  
Do not go gentle into that good night.  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

**Dylan Thomas**

## Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

Do not stand at my grave and weep,  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glint on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you wake in the morning hush,  
I am the swift, uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am the soft starlight at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
(Do not stand at my grave and cry.  
I am not there, I did not die!)

**Mary Elizabeth Frye**

## Farewell My Friends

Farewell My Friends  
It was beautiful  
As long as it lasted  
The journey of my life.  
I have no regrets  
Whatever said  
The pain I'll leave behind.  
Those dear hearts  
Who love and care...  
And the strings pulling  
At the heart and soul...  
The strong arms  
That held me up  
When my own strength  
Let me down.  
At the turning of my life  
I came across  
Good friends,  
Friends who stood by me  
Even when time raced me by.  
Farewell, farewell My friends  
I smile and  
Bid you goodbye.  
No, shed no tears  
For I need them not  
All I need is your smile.  
If you feel sad  
Do think of me  
For that's what I'll like  
When you live in the hearts  
Of those you love  
Remember then  
You never die.  
**Gitanjali Ghei**

## My Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of me as gone away  
My journey's just begun  
Life holds so many facets  
This earth is but one  
Just think of me as resting  
From the sorrows and the tears  
In a place of warmth and comfort  
Where there are no days and years  
Think of how I must be wishing  
That you could know today  
How nothing but your sadness  
Can really go away  
And think of me as living  
In the hearts of those I touched  
For nothing loved is ever lost  
And I know I was loved so much  
**Ellen Brenneman**

## All Is Well

Death is nothing at all,  
I have only slipped into the next room  
I am I and you are you  
Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.  
Call me by my old familiar name,  
Speak to me in the easy way which you always used  
Put no difference in your tone,  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow  
Laugh as we always laughed at the  
little jokes we enjoyed together.  
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me.  
Let my name be ever the household word  
that it always was,  
Let it be spoken without effect,  
without the trace of shadow on it.  
Life means all that it ever meant.  
It is the same as it ever was, there is unbroken  
continuity.  
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am waiting for you, for an interval,  
somewhere very near,  
Just around the corner.  
All is well.  
**Henry Scott Holland**

## You've just walked on ahead of me

And I've got to understand  
You must release the ones you love  
And let go of their hand.  
I try and cope the best I can  
But I'm missing you so much  
If I could only see you  
And once more feel your touch.  
Yes, you've just walked on ahead of me  
Don't worry I'll be fine  
But now and then I swear I feel  
Your hand slip into mine.  
**Joyce Grenfell**

## Look for me in Rainbows

Time for me to go now, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, way up in the sky.  
In the morning sunrise when all the world is new,  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.  
Time for me to leave you, I won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, high up in the sky.  
In the evening sunset, when all the world is through,  
Just look for me and love me, and I'll be close to you.  
It won't be forever, the day will come and then  
My loving arms will hold you, when we meet again.  
Time for us to part now, we won't say goodbye;  
Look for me in rainbows, shining in the sky.  
Every waking moment, and all your whole life through  
Just look for me and love me, as you know I loved you.  
Just wish me to be near you,  
And I'll be there with you.  
**Vicki Brown**