



BEWLEY

Funeral Directors Limited

Our Family are here for your family



A Guide to personalising a funeral

While we are involved with funerals on a daily basis, we never forget that completing all the arrangements of a funeral service is a task most families face only a few times. Our intention is to help make every service personal and meaningful, and truly reflective of the life that was lived.

There are many ways to personalise a funeral, please see below some of the ideas.

The Chapel of Rest

- You may wish to bring in photographs, cards or any other personal items (please check with us) and they can also be placed in the coffin by either you or ourselves

Before the Service

- Consider a favourite place your loved one liked to go, like their favourite park, or a favourite restaurant, or maybe they were happiest at home. We can arrange to have the procession pass by this favourite place.
- Your loved one may have been a motorbike enthusiast, or a lorry driver or may have enjoyed horse riding as a hobby. (please see funeral transport for more information)
- You can get involved on a more personal level by helping to carry the coffin - and sometimes if there are more than enough volunteers, they can take it in turns. The funeral director will give advice and instruction.

During the Service

- Bring in the favourite song of the person who has passed away on compact disc or cassette to be played as part of the funeral service.
- Flowers can be handed out to be placed on the coffin in the crematorium if the curtains remain open. Alternatively, single stems can be thrown at the graveside.
- Ask us to design and produced an order of service with photographs which people can take with them as a keepsake, or you may wish for the congregation to sign a condolence book (please see funeral stationery)
- Please enquire about taking pet dogs 'a mans best friend' to the service. In the past it has been known for the dog and handler to walk in front of the funeral cortege.
- If your loved one had a hobby of building things or was involved in the arts, crafts or photography, bring some of their works in to be displayed at the funeral. We can even take quilt work and drape it over the coffin for example. We can also military flags, caps and medals.
- Bring in photographs spanning the life of the person who has passed away and we can incorporate them onto an easel at the crematorium. Also the crematorium at Semington has a Tv screen mounted onto the wall, a USB stick full of photos can be inserted into the screen and photos can be displayed during the service.
- If you have favourite scripture readings or poems, let the minister know what they are and see if they they can be incorporated into the service.
- The person who has passed away has likely touched the lives of many people. For those who knew the deceased, it is often viewed as quite an honour to be asked to speak at the funeral. The speaker need not have a professionally written eulogy but rather may write something personal or select a favourite poem or scripture verse. (please see how to write a eulogy and poems section).
- You may wish to video the service for family and friends that can't be with you on the day.

After the Service

- Balloons can be released after the service. Everyone can be given one and some brief words can be said before releasing them in the air.
- Hand people a memento as they leave - one service I attended, everyone was handed a sprig of rosemary which is an emblem of remembrance.
- At the wake, you may wish to organise a photo presentation or some form of slideshow for mourners to chat about and reminisce.
- If the service is cremation, there are many options for cremated remains. We offer a wide range of keepsake and jewellery options which will become priceless to each individual and everlasting.

Alternatives

- We offer a unique service at no extra cost to you to have the funeral service in Bewleys Chapel. We offer this service in Melksham and Devizes. The service is very personal and carried out in a very relaxed and informal atmosphere without any time constraints like a church, cemetery or crematorium. Please see the Bewley Chapel for more information