

# My Funeral Wishes



C.P.J. Field.

More than a funeral director since 1690.

Name:

Date:

## About the funeral in general

In general terms, briefly describe the sort of funeral ceremony that you would like. *Think about whether you would like a big send off, or something more intimate. Is the inclusion of religion an important element? Is there a specific colour, or theme that you would like people to follow?*

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Unlike weddings, funerals can legally be held almost anywhere (provided the owner agrees!) and not just at churches, crematoria or cemetery chapels. Although a funeral is typically held in a place of worship or crematorium, there are now many other choices available.

Do you have any preference as to where your funeral ceremony should take place?

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Who would you like to lead your funeral ceremony? A minister, celebrant or perhaps even a friend or family member. *If you would like a friend or family member, do check with them first that they would be happy and able to perform this really important task.*

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Are there any people that you would like to be involved in your funeral ceremony? *There are plenty of ways friends and family can be involved, through carrying the coffin, to reading or performing; or indeed by arranging flowers or making food.*

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## Prior to the day of the funeral

Would you like to be dressed in a specific outfit, or would you like to wear a gown provided by the funeral director? *It may sound silly, but if you're choosing your own clothes, don't forget to mention underwear and any other items, such as glasses etc.*

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Do you have a preference for the type of coffin you would like to be placed in – for example, wood, wicker, an American casket. *If you can't immediately think of a descriptive name – try to write down an example of what you have in mind – e.g. "light coloured, unvarnished coffin with wooden handles" or "a simple design wooden coffin with metal handles". Your funeral director will be able to show you plenty of examples.*

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Are you happy for family and friends to come and visit you at the funeral home before the day of the funeral ceremony?

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Is there anything that you would like placed in your coffin with you, such as a photo or similar? The funeral director can provide advice now or to your next of kin at the time. *In some cases, especially if you've chosen to be cremated, there may be restrictions on what can be placed in the coffin.*

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Sometimes people ask for their coffin to spend the final night before the funeral ceremony at a place other than the funeral directors' – for example their home or a church. If you would like to, indicate here, where you would like your coffin to rest?

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Please continue to answer any questions on a separate sheet of paper.

Would you like us to place an announcement in a local or national newspaper, or ensure that an announcement is made elsewhere (such as a club or group of which you are a member, social media etc.)?

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Take a moment to write down any further wishes for the period prior to the funeral here:

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## The day of the funeral

How would you like your coffin to be taken to the place where the ceremony will take place? *For example in a traditional hearse, on a horse drawn hearse or VW campervan etc – your funeral director will advise on available options.*

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Is there a specific route that you would like your funeral procession (if you would like one) to take, for example past a location of significance – a club, pub or place of worship?

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Do you have any specific wishes regarding flowers (colour or type)? *This could be for a specific kind – or one to avoid – or wishes as to who should send them (i.e. family only).*

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Would you like family and friends to make a donation to charity in lieu (or in addition to) flowers? If so, which charity/charities would you like to support?

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If you have any other specific wishes relating to the day of the funeral such as a dress code you would like, take a moment to write them down here:

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## The Ceremony itself

Music is often a big part of life, and funeral ceremonies. What music would you like to be played at your funeral and how? *For example, the music you wish to be played at the start of the ceremony, any music or hymns you would like to be sung and any pieces for reflection, and so on.*

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Would you like someone to speak about your life and achievements? (Don't be modest – this is a really important way to enable family and friends to recall their own memories). Who would you like to do this? Are there any particular events or stories that you would like to be included?

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Are there any readings that you would like to be included in your ceremony – particular passages from Scripture or a favourite poem? *If you would like a particular person to read it, make sure you note that down here:*

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If there are any other notes or wishes for the content of your funeral ceremony, take a moment to jot them down here:

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Would you like to be cremated  or buried  ?

## If you would like to be buried

Where would you like to be buried? If you have already arranged a grave space, please write down the location/plot number in addition to the name of your chosen cemetery/place of burial. If someone has already been buried in the grave, please note down their name as well.

## If you would like to be cremated

If the ceremony has taken place elsewhere, do you have a preference for the crematorium?

Who would you like to attend the ceremony at the crematorium – everyone, just close family and/or friends, or just the funeral director's staff?

Following the cremation there are a number of options to consider for what you would like to happen to your ashes. In addition to scattering or burying them, they can be held for a period by the funeral director, some can be used in the creation of a piece of jewellery or other keepsake item – more creatively, they can even be put into fireworks. Take a moment to describe what you would like done with your ashes, remember to include details of any ceremony you would like observed and specific people you would like involved.

## Gathering after the funeral

A gathering following a funeral ceremony provides a great opportunity for family and friends to gather, reminisce and share memories. It can also provide an opportunity for further participation. Take a moment to write down any wishes you have for a gathering. Be sure to include any specific venues, food or drink elements that are important to you.

## Memorials

If you have any ideas for a specific memorial, please take a moment to write down your wishes here:

## Other wishes

If you have any other wishes that you would like recorded and are not included elsewhere in this document, please note them down here:

The following information will assist your next of kin when they come to inform the Registrar of your passing:

## About me

Name: ..... Current or last full-time occupation: .....  
Address: ..... Spouse's full name: .....  
..... Doctor's name: .....  
Postcode: ..... Surgery address: .....  
Telephone: .....  
Email: ..... Postcode: .....  
Date of birth: ..... National Insurance number: .....  
Former names (e.g. maiden name) if applicable: ..... National Health Service number: .....  
Place of birth: .....

## My Next of Kin: the person(s) likely to be making the funeral arrangements

Name: ..... Name: .....  
Address: ..... Address: .....  
.....  
Postcode: ..... Postcode: .....  
Telephone: ..... Telephone: .....  
Email: ..... Email: .....  
Relationship to me: ..... Relationship to me: .....

## Will

I have a Will: Yes  No

A copy of my Will is kept at or with: .....

My solicitor is: .....

Address: ..... Postcode: .....

I have a funeral plan with: .....



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More than a funeral director since 1690.

*Because every life is unique*

[www.cpjfield.co.uk](http://www.cpjfield.co.uk)

**When you have completed this document, keep it in a safe place, but remember to tell your nearest and dearest where it is, so that when the time comes they know what to do. A copy can be left with your local CPJ Field funeral home.**