

A possible structure of funeral service – to help with decisions about content

(This structure is for a service at a CREMATORIUM – for services where there is to be a burial or interment or scattering of ashes – the exit music will be for people to move from the chapel to outside – where the committal will take place.)

This is only one way to arrange the time available (normally a 30 minute service) – there are no rules – as your celebrant I will listen to your thoughts and try to reflect the essence of the person who has died, as well as the family wishes, when planning the content of the service. The only restriction is the time – allowing for people to enter and exit the chapel or place where the service is being held.

If you are having an ‘order of service’ printed the front cover is often used for photo/photos of the person who has died. Also the person’s birth and death dates. The front usually has the detail of when and where the service is taking place and the ‘celebrant’ who is leading the service.

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MUSIC TO ENTER –

Welcome words

Eulogy (or this can be worded ‘Words to Celebrate the life of.....’ ‘Memories of.....’)

REFLECTION – MUSIC –

Committal

Closing words

MUSIC TO EXIT –

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The back cover of the ‘order of service’ might include more photos and details about donations and the gathering after the service – where relevant.

ADDITIONAL CONTENT

There might be prayers or hymns as well as poetry. There might be family tributes.

These can be placed wherever you feel best – advice will be given. However -AFTER the COMMITTAL there is usually just a short closing poem/words before the end of the service.

TRISHA LEWIS – Fellowship of Professional Celebrants

www.trishalewiscelebrant.com M: 07815 933109 trishaspeakerlewis@gmail.com