

**MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE**  
**GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**AUTHORIZED BY THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER**

MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE IN A HOME OR MORTUARY

(Facing the mourners)

MASTER: Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God in His wise Providence to take out of this world the soul of our deceased Brother, we have come to acknowledge a relationship which the dearest ties of friendship and love enjoin, that of tendering a farewell to our departed Brother. As we mourn his departure, let us learn the lesson of our own mortality. How honorably he maintained the cares of life we can attest; let us, therefore, preserve his memory and dwell on all that was good and amiable in his character. That our Brother was faultless cannot be supposed, but as we shall all appear before the Almighty Judge, let our hearts register only our Brother's virtues. Farewell, my Brother; you have gone to meet your God, and may He approve of you. May we be faithful and when our end approaches, may our eyes be closed in peace. Farewell, till the Grand Summons comes. Then, Brother, may we rise to greet you. And now, because our God is the God of hope and consolation and does not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men, let us invoke His mercy and His grace.

(Officers and members will stand with hands clasped, right over left, heads bowed.)

CHAPLAIN: Almighty and Everlasting God, the Lord of Life and Death, help us to approach Thee with profound reverence and with a humble sense of helplessness and dependence. Standing in the presence of death, we feel and acknowledge how frail and uncertain is our own condition; and while we thank Thee for the life of our Brother, we sincerely ask Thee to strengthen us who are still on our pilgrimage, and teach us that we may continue to grow in wisdom and understanding. May the labor of our hands, minds and hearts be diligent and productive; knowing that there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, we may take with us whither we go. Inspire in us such trust in Thee and such a measure of charity toward all mankind that we may secure Thy Divine approval. Let Thy Fatherly care and protection be over those who are bereaved. Remember them, O Lord, in mercy; supply their needs, and remove all rebellion from their hearts. Let Thy blessing rest upon us in the performance of this fraternal duty. Comfort us with a sense of Thy goodness, lift up Thy countenance upon us, and give us that peace which this world can neither give nor take away. Heavenly Father, pardon our sins, be our Strength in weakness, our Light in darkness and our Hope in death. Glory be to God on High.

RESPONSE BY BRETHREN: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, So mote it be.

(All raise heads, drop hands at sides. Master should turn to audience when speaking.)

MASTER: On this scroll, (hold up scroll) we have inscribed the name and Masonic record of our Brother. His spirit has returned whence it came.

(Deposit in casket alongside body.)

This lambskin or white leathern apron worn by our Brother (point to apron) is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Freemason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or the Roman Eagle; more honorable than the Star and Garter, or any order instituted by man.

The charms of friendship and innocence cannot revoke the inevitable termination of this life; nor extend our tenure on earth. The occasion which now brings us together reminds us that we too are mortal, and our spirits shall someday leave this earthly home.

This evergreen (hold up to display) is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. It is a symbol of that immortal part within us which shall continue to exist beyond physical death.

Farewell, my Brother.

(Lay on left lapel of deceased coat.)

SENIOR WARDEN: Farewell, my Brother.

(Place evergreen in the casket on right forearm.)

JUNIOR WARDEN: Farewell, my Brother.

(Place evergreen in the casket on right forearm.)

The following Invocations shall then be made by the Master:

(Officers and members again fold hands right over left and bow heads.)

MASTER: May we be true and faithful and may we live and die in love.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

MASTER: May we profess what is good, and always act agreeably to our professions.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

MASTER: May the Lord bless us and prosper us; and may all our good intentions be crowned with success.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.

MASTER: Glory be to God on High.

RESPONSE: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. So mote it be.

MASTER: May Almighty God of His infinite goodness, at the great tribunal of unbiased justice, extend His mercy toward our Brother and toward all of us, and crown our hope with everlasting peace in the realms of a boundless eternity. This we ask, in the honor of His Name, to Whom be glory now and forever. Amen.

RESPONSE: So mote it be.