

Share your Memories with a
Collection of Funeral Poems



ICPC

The International Corporation of Professional Celebrants

E: enquiries@ICPCelebrants.com

W: ICPCelebrants.com

Take Me Home - Unknown

I remember the face of my father,
As we walked back home from the mine.
He'd laugh and he'd say, that's one more day,
And it's good to feel the sunshine.

I remember my mother was smiling,
As I set out to make my own way.
She seemed to know that I had to go,
But I'd come back home one day.

Take me home, to my family,
Take me home, to my friends,
Take me home where my heart lies
And let me, let me, let me sing again.

Now the years have rolled by around me,
I've seen the sun shine and rain.
It's been so long since I heard that song,
And I dream of home once again.

She/He is Gone by David Harkins

You can shed tears that she is gone
or you can smile because she has lived.
You can close your eyes and pray that she'll come back
or you can open your eyes and see all she's left.
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
or you can be full of the love you shared.
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember her and only that she's gone
or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.
You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back
or you can do what she'd want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

Feel No Guilt In Laughter – Unknown

Feel no guilt in laughter, he'd know how much you care.
Feel no sorrow in a smile that he is not here to share.
You cannot grieve forever; he would not want you to.
He'd hope that you could carry on the way you always do.
So, talk about the good times and the way you showed you cared,
The days you spent together, all the happiness you shared.
Let memories surround you, a word someone may say
Will suddenly recapture a time, an hour or a day,
That brings him back as clearly as though he were still here,
And fills you with the feeling that he is always near.
For if you keep those moments, you will never be apart
And he will live forever locked safely within your heart.

Afterglow - Unknown

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.

Do not stand at my grave and weep – Mary Frye

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 glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

Sea Fever - John Masefield

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song
and the white sail's shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again,
for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume,
and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's way
where the wind's like a whetted knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

A Miner - Unknown

A miner stood at the golden gate
His head was bent and low
He meekly asked the man of fate
The way that he should go
What have you done St. Peter said
To gain admission here
I merely mined for coal he said
For many a many year
St. Peter opened wide the gate
And softly tolled the bell
Come and choose you harp he said
You've had your share of hell...

Do Not Ask Me to Remember - Owen Darnell

Do not ask me to remember,
Don't try to make me understand,
Let me rest and know you're with me,
Kiss my cheek and hold my hand.

I'm confused beyond your concept,
I am sad and sick and lost.
All I know is that I need you
To be with me at all cost.

Do not lose your patience with me,
Do not scold or curse or cry.
I can't help the way I'm acting,
Can't be different though I try.

Just remember that I need you,
That the best of me is gone,
Please don't fail to stand beside me,
Love me 'til my life is done.

Look For Me In Rainbows - Unknown

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.
So look for me in rainbows And I'll be close to you.

May I go Now - Susan A Jackson

May I go now?
Do you think the time is right?
May I say goodbye to pain filled days
And endless lonely nights

I've lived my life and done my best
An example tried to be
So can I take that step beyond?
And set my spirit free

I didn't want to go at first
I fought with all my might
But something seems to draw me now
To warm and loving night

I want to go I really do
It's difficult to stay
But I will try as best I can
To live just one more day

To give you time to care for me
And share your love and fears
I know you're sad and so afraid
Because I see your tears

I'll not be far I promise that
And hope you'll always know
That my spirit will be close to you
Wherever you may go

Thank you so for loving me
You know I love you too
That's why it's hard to say goodbye
And end this life with you

So hold me now just one more time
And let me hear you say
Because you love me so very much
You'll let me go today....

The Dash - Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the
dates on the tombstone
from the beginning... to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth
and spoke of the following date with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all
was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
they spent alive on earth
and now only those who loved them
know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own,
the cars... the house... the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard;
are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
that still can be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger
and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
and more often wear a smile...
remembering that this special dash
might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read,
with your life's actions to rehash,
would you be proud of the things they say
about how you lived your dash?

Our Father's Garden – Unknown

Our Father kept a garden,
A garden of the heart,
He planted all the good things there
That gave our lives their start.

He turned us into sunshine
And encouraged us to dream
Fostering and nurturing
the seeds of self esteem

And when the winds and rain came
He protected us enough
But not too much because he knew
We need to stand strong and tough

His constant good example
Always taught us right from wrong
Markers for our pathways
That will last a lifetime long

We are now our Father's garden,
We are his legacy
And we hope today he feels
The love reflected back to thee.

Something Beautiful Remains - Unknown

The tide recedes but leaves behind
bright seashells on the sand.
The sun goes down, but gentle
warmth still lingers on the land.
The music stops, and yet it echoes
on in sweet refrains.....
For every joy that passes,
something beautiful remains.

Gone from Sight – Henry Van Dyke

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side,
spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts
for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck
of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each
other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast,
hull and spar as she was when she left my side.
And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her
destined port.

Her diminished size is in me -- not in her.

And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone,"
there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices
ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

And that is dying...

Great Spirit – Claire Mountain

Great spirit of the wind, she who blows wild and free
Protect her from the harsh cold force
Blow gentle on her spirit
Caress the soft winding essence that she leaves

Great spirit of the snow, kept her light and gentle
For the flakes that fall in winter whisper her name
The crisp frost reflects her tongue
And she will grace the stage again.

Great spirit of the sun, feel her warmth
Spread her generous nature among the cold
Let the memory of her linger
For the sunlight sparkles in her soul

Great spirit of the rain, release her body filled with pain
For now she's free
For she was the spirit in life we hold...
Together in death we miss her soul...

Life is but a Stopping Place - unknown

Life is but a stopping place
A pause in what's to be
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity

We all have different journeys
Different paths along the way
We all were meant to learn some things
But never meant to stay

Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know
For some the journey's quicker
For some the journey's slow

And when the journey finally ends
Our families will reunite
And find an ever lasting peace
Together in the light.

Remember My Best - Unknown

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

My Father was a Miner - Unknown

My father was a miner
he worked deep underground
The rush of drams and clanking chains
they were his daily sound

The work so hard and wages small
he didn't dare go sick
He crawled upon his belly
on rocks so low with narrow drifts

The wind it whistled down the shaft
it chilled him to the marrow
While squatting down upon the ground
where spit and crumbs were shed

His water it was in a jack
to wet down clouds of dust
That gathered in his throat and lungs
where it formed a deadly crust

I'd would listen for his footsteps
He'd then came into sight
This man my dad as black as black
just like the darkest night

His bath was always ready
sat down by the fire
My mother then would wash his back
and tell me retire

Right down his back white rivers ran
amongst the dirt and grime
But you cannot wash away blue scars
that you get down in the mine

Years now have passed, my father gone
but I am proud to say
My father was a Welsh miner
until his dying day...

We Never Saw This Coming - Unknown

No one knew the torment,
That you were going through;
We only kept on seeing
What we really wanted to.

We saw the outward smile,
But not your inner pain;
We never really dreamt,
That you would never smile again.

We pray your mental anguish,
Will now forever cease;
And that your deep anxieties,
Will be replaced by peace.

But we in turn remember,
The good times, not the bad;
We remember when you smiled at us,
And not when you were sad.

So when we think about your life,
We won't dwell upon its close;
We'll remember all the good times,
And forget about life's blows.

Our lives have all been better,
Because you have been there;
So now we leave your memory,
In God's all-loving care.

Love Has No Grave - Unknown

Love has no grave, Nor weathered stone
No flowers lie, Where wind has blown
No driven nails, With years to rust
No mortal rag, To fall to dust.

If Heaven is, It never lies
In rainbow hue, Nor any skies
It is to be, Where time will stand
In peace so still, To touch a hand.

In secret place, Behind the eye
Where thoughts may hide
And never die,
From stores of words, The years will save
Just those that tell, Love has no grave.

Special Sister – Unknown

In memory of a special sister
So full of loving deeds
Who always thought of other first
And helped fulfil their needs

Someone who loved to bring a smile
As she went on her way
And never failed to brighten up
A dark and gloomy day

Someone who'll never know how much
She's missed and thought about
For when she left, it seemed as if
The stars had all gone out

Sister you meant so very much
In every single way
And you're remember with mush love
Today and everyday...

Your Photo – Unknown

I found your photo in a box.
It didn't move. It didn't talk.
And every day, I looked in vain,
And every day, It stayed the same.

It didn't answer me, Or change.
The lines across Your face remained
Exactly where They'd been before.

I hung your picture On a door,
I lay my memories On the floor.
I put your picture On the wall.
You didn't write. You didn't call.

My stomach burned My hope grew small.
I couldn't hear Your voice at all.
And in my dreams The letters came,
And when I woke I heard your name.
But the picture Stayed the same.

Pardon me for not getting up.

Oh dear, if you're reading this right now,
I must have given up the ghost.
I hope you can forgive me for being
Such a stiff and unwelcoming host.

Just talk amongst yourself my friends,
And share a toast or two.
For I am sure you will remember well
How I loved to drink with you.
Don't worry about mourning me,
I was never easy to offend.
Feel free to share a story at my expense
And we'll have a good laugh at the end.

A Legacy

A wife, a mother, a nan too,
This is the legacy we have from you.
You taught us love and how to fight,
You gave us strength; you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find,
And in your heart, you were always kind.
You fought for us all in one way or another,
Not just as a wife not just as a mother.
For all of us you gave your best,
Now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep,
Your love in our hearts, We'll eternally keep.

An Angel lived among us

An angel lived among us,
A gift from high above.
She showered us with kindness
And shared with us her love.

She cherished every moment
With the man who was her life;
Walking hand in hand together,
Facing life with all its strife.

She loved her children dearly,
Each one a different way,
Nestled close within her heart.
Though, now, she's far away.

She's gone to live in the stars,
But, she's here with us, today,
Smiling down on every one of us,
And telling us she's O.K..



ICPC

The International Corporation of Professional Celebrants

E: enquiries@ICPCelebrants.com
W: ICPCelebrants.com