

Planning your own funeral ceremony

There are many choices to be made.

You may wish to allow your family to make those choices. Or you may want to provide some guidelines for them, to support them in the organising when the time comes.

I am passionate about helping people through this maze of choices, sharing my knowledge and experience, dispelling misunderstandings and myths and empowering everyone to plan the funeral they would wish for themselves, or in arranging a funeral for a loved one.

Let me guide and support you.

Some areas for decision-making are:

What's your budget?

Burial or cremation?

Which crematorium?

Which burial site?

Would you prefer a relaxed funeral, with no set time-limit?

Transport - eg a hearse, a camper van, a friend's car, a particular type of favourite car, a horse-drawn carriage, a vintage bus, a motorcycle sidecar ...?

A coffin or a shroud? Which style / design?

Is an 'eco' funeral important to you, with a low carbon footprint, and what are your options, if so?

And in the planning of the funeral ceremony itself:

Who would you like to lead it?

Some religious content or none?

Poetry and music choices

Would you like a period of silence for reflection?

Would you like the ceremony to follow the usual flow and structure, or to plan something different? What is the meaning and purpose of the usual flow and structure, and what might be the effect of changing that?

Would you like your words to be heard at your own funeral?

Nobody knows you as well as you know yourself.

If you think about your funeral, with everyone there waiting, ready to hear about you, and about your life..... What is it that you'd really like them to hear?

Can you identify the significant events in your life that you'd like them to hear about?

I will listen and include your words as 'centre stage'.

It's good to be heard.

Time span

I offer one or two sessions of up to two hours in length. We could meet at your home, or another venue of your choice.

Prior to my first visit, we will have a brief, friendly introductory conversation on the telephone.

I will then send you some guidelines and questions you might like to consider before we meet.

If we take this path together, you will be under no obligation whatsoever to use me as your celebrant at your funeral. You will keep the printed copy of your words, to be used as and when the time comes, by whoever you may choose.

My aim is that you will receive, within 14 days:

- a) your printed and electronic copy of all we have discussed (in note form) and also
- b) a printed and electronic copy of all your words that you would like spoken at your funeral (and audio recording if requested)

Cost

Sliding scale £30 - £80 per hour of time spent with you (excluding tea breaks, which are encouraged!).

You choose your level of payment according to your means.

This fee also covers my travel costs and time, and time spent producing printed and electronic copies for you.



Debbie Jones Funerals
person-centred,
bespoke ceremonies

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