

Memorial Service Request

To the Worshipful Master of Highland Lodge No. 762 F&AM:

It is my heartfelt request that the Fraternity of Free & Accepted Masons conduct Masonic Memorial Services upon my demise, and I have so informed my family.

(Printed Name) _____

Signature: Brother _____

Memorial Service Request

To My Loving Family:

It is my heartfelt wish that my fraternity be permitted to pay its last respects by conducting Masonic Memorial Services at my demise. I have informed my Lodge and the mortuary that will handle my arrangements. I hope these services might be important to you, too.

Signature: _____

Memorial Service Request

To _____ Mortuary:

It is my final wish that funeral services for me include a Masonic Memorial Service, and I have so informed my family.

At the appropriate time, please contact the Master of Highland Lodge No. 762 F&AM, located in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

(Printed Name) _____

Signature: Brother _____

PLAN AHEAD -- Families sometimes don't know, and it's an especially stressful time. You can help by making sure these plans are made in advance. Just fill out these forms. Give one to your Lodge. If you have pre-planned your funeral, send one to your funeral director for their files. Make sure your family knows your wishes, and put the family card with your important papers so they'll be sure to find it after you've gone.

Masonic Memorial Services Important to Family and Craft

by Stephen D. Chapman, P.M., Fellowship Lodge No. 681

Masonry is a fraternity. As such, unless we've made special efforts to involve our spouses and our families, they really don't know much about it. And when, from our nerveless grasp shall drop forever the working tools of life, who will be there to tell our survivors how much we revered our Masonic heritage? Take a second right now and let someone know. Complete the forms accompanying this article. Do it before physical or mental health stand in the way of telling someone how much Masonry has meant to you.

Remember, too, that a Masonic Memorial Service is the fraternity's way of recalling your life and of saying farewell. It's a way for your Brothers to feel like they've paid due respect to a Brother craftsman. And although your lifeless form may rest in that narrow house, it is still an emblem of respect when your Brothers can stand with you one last time in the character of Free and Accepted Masons.

This message would not be complete, of course, without reminding the Craft of the importance of attending Masonic Memorial Services. It is not just a Mason's way of paying respect to a fallen Brother and saying farewell; nor is it a duty for Lodge officers alone. It is supportive to the family who become aware that there are men who recall their loved one in scenes to which the world was not a witness, and that he had a level of respect among a fraternity they really know little about. Sadly, we have all probably known dedicated Masons who had no Masonic Memorial Service. Doubtless their families had no idea how important the service would be for their lost husband or father, or how important it would have been for his Brethren together in his honor for one last tribute of respect.

Don't let that happen to you.
Make a decision -- today -- and let your family know!