

A short service to commend xxxxx into the care of God

(we gather around a small table with a lit candle and possibly some items that speak of xxxxx)

Readings:

*Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For you are with me,
Your rod and your staff will comfort and protect me. (Psalm 23)*

*Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
By whose great mercy
We have been born anew to a living hope
By the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1Peter 1:3)*

A Prayer:

God in whose love we are born, we live, and we die,
Comforter who is a refuge and a strength for us,
We gather with tears, with thankfulness, in this sacred space called home.
Help us hear and be aware of our faith,
The love that holds and treasures each one of us.
May your Holy Spirit lift us
Above our natural sorrow,
To the peace and light of your everlasting love
Through Jesus Christ our Lord

And as Jesus teaches us we pray together:

*Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.*

Remembrance:

In a time of silence, and inadequate words, we lift up the life of xxxxx and all they has meant for us before God..... (we share some brief silence and words that bring to mind their life))

God in whom we live and move and have our being

We thank you for the gifts, the talents, the wisdom, used to bring life to others....

We thank you for the foibles, the laughter, the humanity....

We give thanks for the journey, the good and the bad, and opportunities to discover life together.....

We thank you for the giving, the companionship, the learning, the tears, the love, the things beyond words, we have shared.....

Now give us the strength, the courage, the faith,

To leave xxxxx in your good care,

Confident of your promise of eternal life,

A home in your eternal love.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Hope:

Reading from Romans 8:38,39

God's love outlasts all things.

There is nothing is death or life,

In the world as it is,

Or the world as it shall be,

Nothing in all creation,

That can separate us from the love of God

Which we have seen in Jesus Christ our Lord.

(some brief words...)

The Commendation:

xxxxx has died and the breath of life that sustained her/him is stilled.

We have precious memories and we have hope

That she/he is returned to the eternal home that awaits us all.

Embrace her/him with the your deep peace, O God.

Keep her/him safe within your warm embrace,
And lead her/him to be with all those who go before us.
In our goodbye, may our tears fall freely,
And any regrets that are deep in our souls,
Or things that remain undone be laid aside.
May our wounds of grief find compassionate ears,
Space to lie fallow, and healing kindness.
And may the peace that is now xxxxx's also be ours.

xxxxx

Your body has been cremated dust to dust, ashes to ashes, and will in time
be returned to the keeping of Mother Earth.
We commit you into God's good care,
Knowing you are precious to God,
Believing in the love that is eternal,
Trusting that you have found peace in the mercy of God.
(together)
Go and be at one with the winds and the stars
Go and be at one with the falling rain, the flowers and trees
Go and be at one with all that is, and all that will be.
Go in peace, go in love.

Blessing:

Bless us Holy God with tears and laughter
Bless us with the company of friends and family and the hope of budding
trees
Bless us with the promise of sunrise and the deep peace that knows we do
not journey alone
May the company of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit give us healing and
peace. Amen