



Departing with Dignity Service

Good Shepherd Home

725 Columbus Avenue
Fostoria, Ohio 44830
419-937-1801

The Good Shepherd Home graciously shares this information about their *Departing with Dignity* service that takes place at the time of death of someone for whom Good Shepherd has been home. If you want more information about the service, please contact their chaplain, James Sampson, at the phone number above.

~ Fellowship of Brethren Homes
www.brethren.org/homes

An Overview

The following procedure is to be implemented to show our respect and dignity for those who have lived, and now have died, at Good Shepherd Home. It is to take place upon each death unless the family requests otherwise. Staff members and other residents are invited to participate as they wish.

The fabric covering, with the Good Shepherd logo, will be given to the funeral director to cover the deceased as he or she is moved from their room to the main entrance of the home.

A procession will be led by a close staff person, the chaplain, or the wellness director. The deceased is brought out of the room into the hallway with the leader first. If there are any family members present, they come next, followed by any participating staff or residents who wish to accompany the body and participate in the service.

The procession will go to the main entrance and proceed with the ceremony under the dome of the Good Shepherd. Those persons present will gather in a circle around the body. Please see the other side of this document for the order of service.

Following the ceremony, the funeral director and their staff will leave with the body through the front entrance, the same door through which they first entered the Home. The processional will pause, prayers said, and the Good Shepherd cover will be removed, folded, and returned to its storage place.

~ See the order of service on the other side of this paper ~



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CELEBRATION SERVICE

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Note: This service is for those of the Christian faith. If the deceased is from another faith tradition, it can be adapted for the beliefs of that tradition.

Spoken by the Leader:

As Christians, we realize that physical life is temporary. It is a time of preparation for the life to come, and when this life ends, we graduate to life with our heavenly Father and all those who have gone before us.

We gather to celebrate the life of (name), who has gone from earthly life to heavenly life.

Let us pray: **(The following prayer or a prayer of your own can be used.)**

Loving and merciful God, we entrust our brother/sister (name) to your mercy.

You loved (name) greatly in this life; now that he/she is freed from all its cares, give him/her happiness and peace forever.

Let us pray together the Lord's prayer.

(All):

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

(Leader):

And now let us all raise our right hands over (name) in a gesture of farewell and blessing.

The old order has passed away: welcome (name) now into paradise where there will be no more sorrow, but only peace and joy with Jesus, your Son, and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.