

Funerals, Memorials, Life Celebrations

As an independent and alternative celebrant, I can help you find the right words, poetry and readings to honour the memory of a loved one.

Taking time to meet with you to discuss how you might best achieve this, what options you have and to help you create a script that reflects the memories you cherish.

There are no rules...

I can liaise with the Funeral Director and other parties on your behalf and will be there to deliver the ceremony and ensure it flows as planned, supporting you throughout.

Fees start from £180, no VAT

The
Alternative
Celebrant



There is no wrong way to
grieve...

Always do what feels
right for you even if it
doesn't make sense to
others. You are the only
one who knows your
heart.



Bernice Benton
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The Alternative Celebrant



Helping you celebrate,
commemorate and
remember those you
love.

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Remember and Reflect

“Grief , I’ve learned, is really just love. It’s all the love you want to give, but cannot. All that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in that hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go”

James Anderson

When someone we love dies, we are often in shock, almost certainly in pain and trying to formulate a plan or think straight can be extremely difficult. Yet at the same time we feel the pressure to deliver ‘the perfect’ send off. But what exactly is that? I would suggest that, whilst taking into account the wishes laid down by the deceased , what is most important is to provide a service that helps those left behind begin the process of grieving...

Planning a non-religious funeral, memorial or life celebration

The first step is finding the right Celebrant for you; one who you feel comfortable with, to ensure your wishes are carried out.

If you decide that I am that person, we will meet and take time to talk about your loved one so I can write a script that reflects them and the memories you share. We can make a ceremony as solemn or as upbeat as you wish and include, images, video, music, poetry and readings or anything else you wish to add. I can liaise on your behalf with the Funeral Director to ensure everything you need is in place.

I can also help family members and friends prepare their own contributions and, if on the day, it all becomes too emotional, I can read your and their words on their behalf.

But remember, you don’t have to say everything at the service; some of your memories, readings and music can be shared at the wake too, so don’t worry about running out of time.

Some useful ideas

Generally, a service is 30 minutes, however, there is no time limit at the wake and no reason you can’t read tributes, play music or read poems there as well.

There is no correct format. You can include anything you want. You celebrant will liaise with the funeral director, prepare the script and check timings.

Eulogy: your celebrant will help you draft words for you or they to read having spent some time with you discussing fond memories.

Music: You can have any genre of music ;on arrival, on leaving or anytime within the ceremony for quiet reflection.

Poems and readings: You may want to include a reading, your celebrant is happy to read it for you, and even help you choose.

Photos & Videos: yes you can x

Don’t forget: this ceremony is to help those of you left behind remember, to help come to terms with your loss. Do what feels right for you.