

# Celebration Service of Jean xxxx xxxx

## WELCOME

Good afternoon and Welcome to the Dedication Centre at Williamsburg Cemetery. Jean had wanted to have her funeral at her church the First Spiritualist Church of Galt but judging from the crowd here today it would have indeed been too small for everyone attending. Thank you all so much for coming.

Let us begin with an opening Poem entitled:

### The Adventure Beautiful

Today the journey is ended,  
I have worked out the mandates of fate,  
Naked, Alone, undefended,  
I knock at eternal life's gate.

Lo! The gate swings wide at my knocking,  
Across endless reaches I see,  
Loved Ones and Friends come flocking,  
To give a glad welcome to me.

Farewell to those on the earth plane,  
Please know this is my ending of strife,  
Say not that death should be dreaded,  
Tis but the beginning of life.

## OPENING REMARKS

We have come together to pay tribute and to give thanks for the life of JEAN xxxxx, born JEAN xxxxx xxxxxx on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 19xx, and passed in the early hours of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 20xx, at the age of xx years. We are here today to Celebrate her life, truly a life well lived and filled with so many people who loved her and cared about her. She was a daughter of xxxxx and xxxxx xxxxx, Sister to xxxxx, xxxxx and xxxx, Mother to xxxx, xxxx and xxxx, grandmother to xxxx, xxxx, and xxxx, and Aunt to many who loved her dearly.

## OPENING HYMN – Beautiful Isle of Somewhere

Each one of us has our own personal memories of Jean according to our relationship with her. So let us begin our service by singing together one of many songs Jean loved, **Beautiful Isle of Somewhere**. The words are in your programs.

Please Rise

*(Singing, Singing, Singing)*

PLEASE BE SEATED.

### **PRAYER**

Since many of us have received early training as to how we approach God it follows that each of us have our individual concept of this Power. Whatever you conceive your God to be, may I now ask you to join with me in prayer.

***Eternal and ever-present God, in whom we love and move and have our being, we come to you in prayer, seeking strength, understanding and consolation, and ask for a blessing upon this day. May you bring comfort and hope to Jean's family and friends, and may we know in our heart that death is but one step on the journey of eternal life.***

***Help us to realize that death is but a gateway to a continued life free of the limitation of a physical world.***

***We give our love to Jean, knowing that she will be strengthen and encouraged in her life eternal. We know that she has been met by the smiling faces of the family and friends who have gone before and know that the first in line to greet her would most certainly have been her sister Dorothy who passed only 2 short months ago, their reunion was no doubt a joyous occasion.***

***We give you our grateful thanks for all the blessings you have bestowed upon us, for the light of truth revealed to us, and for Jean's life and love shared so unconditionally with us as she walked with us on this earthly plane.***

AMEN.

### **TRIBUTE**

Jean xxxx was born in xxxxxxxx Ontario to xxxxxx xxxxxx xxxx xxxxxx a Dentist and xxxxxx xxxxxx xxxxxx a Nurse. Jean was the youngest of 4 children and had many lifelong friends that she continued to stay in contact with all her life. Jean moved to xxxxxx to attend Business College xxxx and won many school awards. Jean and 3 friends xxxxx, xxxxxx and xxxxx moved to Toronto in 1956 where Jean met Peter xxxxxxx who was there on a scholarship to the University of Toronto. They were engaged in 19xx and married on xxxxxx. Shortly after the wedding they moved to xxxxx xxxx where Peter was from. They lived there for 10 years before returning to Canada and

the open arms of Jean's family. All 3 of their children xxxx, xxxxx, and xxxx, were born in xxxx  
xxxx.

Soon after their return to Canada, Jean started working for xxxxxx in xxxxx and continued her employment with the company in xxxxx, xxxxx when she moved there in 19xx. Jean's skills as a Secretary and Administrative Assistant and organizer extraordinaire were well know. She also volunteered her time on many Boards taking the minutes in shorthand and or transcribing Dictaphone. Oh, how times have changed. From manual typewriters, to electric typewriters to computers, Jean was proficient in them all.

For those that knew Jean well they will remember her love of music and her beautiful singing voice. In her early 20s she joined the Billy Graham Choir in xxxxx and continued to sing throughout her life. xxxx often spoke of the fact that in church it was often Jean's singular voice that would hit the high notes in the hymns.

Jean always made herself available to volunteer and help others, whether it was playing the piano, taking minutes, treasurer and secretary positions on many committees and boards or whatever was asked of her. What a life of giving to mankind.

### **HYMN – In the Sweet By and By**

Let us sing another beautiful song that Jean loved, the words are also in your program, ***In The Sweet By and By***

Please Rise.

*(Singing, Singing, Singing)*

Please be seated.

### **SHARING MEMORIES**

We have a few notes sent by email from people who cared deeply about Jean and who could not be here today.

1. Note from xxxxx, daughter of Jean's sister xxxx, who lives is xxxxx and couldn't be will us today (See Attached)
2. Note from xxxx who has been a dear friend of Jean's in xxxxxx  
(See Attached)

We also have several people who would like to share their memories of Jean with us today and I invite forward at this time,

1. xxxxx, daughter of sister xxxx who passed away on Oct 26<sup>th</sup> two months ago
2. xxxxx, President of the First Spiritualist Church
3. xxxx, Friend and Co Worker from xxxxx
4. xxxxx, Friend and Co Worker

Before I invite xxxx, Jean's daughter up to say a few words, is there anyone else here who would like to share a few words or memories?

- End with Jean's daughter - xxxxxx

### **PICTURES OF JEAN'S LIFE**

We would like to share a few pictures of Jean throughout her life. There were so many pictures and although we would have liked to capture everyone that shared memories with Jean it was simply impossible. For all those who didn't make it into the slide show please know that Jean the tireless photographer has captured you in her many photo albums.

We have chosen to accompany the pictures with another song that was one of her many favourites, **The Circle of Life**.

### **(Video and Song)**

What a wonderful life filled with family and friends.

### **Let us Pray:**

Divine Spirit, God of Life and Love, we ask that our beautiful memories of Jean, so beloved by all, help to heal our personal sadness, help us to remember Jean and her love of life and her caring and giving ways.

Divine Comforter, you who holds all good things in Thy safe keeping, we thank you for our opportunity to share our lives with Jean, who has now completed her earthly journey. Bless her, guide her, and help her as she begins her journey in the life eternal. Great Creator, we know that Thy Presence is amount us and we ask Thee to pour they comfort and strength into the hearts and minds of those gathered her today and those at a distance that could not be here but hold Jean in their memories and in their prayers. AMEN

## **Closing Song: Beyond the Sunset**

Please Rise

*(Singing, Singing, Singing)*

Please remain standing for the committal service.

## **COMMITTAL SERVICE**

The one we love is not here. The spirit of our departed Sister dwells no more in her discarded body and her ashes are but the remains of a shell that has served its purpose. Tenderly and reverently her ashes will be laid along with her beloved sister xxxx at the family cottage to the care of Mother Earth, in the sure knowledge that their lives together are continuing in the hereafter.

**Sweet rest at last!  
At last, the hands are folded,  
Upon a pulse-less breast,  
And a Soul tired of earth's great burden weary,  
Hath found sweet rest.**

**Sweet rest at last!  
Some time, amid the realms of fadeless beauty,  
Earth's toils and sorrow past,  
Find with the dear ones who have gone before us,  
Sweet rest at last!**

Thank you all so much for coming and the family invites you back to Jean's home she shared with xxxxx and xxxx. Directions are at the back of your Program. Please join the family and continue to share your stories of Jean and how she touched your life.