



The

Garden of Remembrance

a community memorial event

Thursday, June 16th, 2022 | 6:30 pm

Couchiching Beach Park



"The life given to us by nature is short, but the memory of a life well spent is eternal" - Cicero

Hospice Orillia is a program of the
North Simcoe Muskoka Hospice Palliative Care Network
Registered charity number #135837748RR0001
www.hospiceorillia.ca | ph: (705) 325-0505

supported by / financé par



**Ontario Santé
Health Ontario**



NSMHPCN
North Simcoe Muskoka Hospice Palliative Care Network

Order of Service



**OPENING REMARKS
AND LAND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Louise Brazier
Whitney Vowels
Mayor Clarke
Hospice Orillia
Hospice Orillia
City of Orillia

OPENING MUSIC

Paul Spears
Piper

READINGS

Deborah Duncan-Randal
Annalise Stenekes
NSMHPCN Board of Directors
Mariposa House Hospice

MUSIC

Annalise Stenekes &
Frances Heylar
Bennett Rouge

READINGS

David Carson
Theresa Morrison
Carson Funeral Homes
Bridget's Bunnies

FLOWER PLANTING AND MEMORIAL NAMES READING

READINGS

Rev. Linda Patton-Cowie
Nicole Johnstone
June Gunn
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Mundell Funeral Home
Hospice Orillia Volunteer

MUSIC

Annalise Stenekes &
Frances Heylar
Bennett Rouge

READINGS

Tanya Cunningham
John Mayo
Orillia Museum of Art & History
Mariposa House Hospice Board
of Directors

CLOSING

Louise Brazier
Hospice Orillia

ADDITIONAL READINGS INCLUDED IN VIRTUAL PROGRAM

READINGS

Mayor Hughes
Mayor Burkett
Maisy
Bernadette Copeland
Township of Oro-Medonte
Township of Severn
Friend of Hospice Orillia
Simcoe County Suicide
Awareness Council

THANK YOU COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Angie Nussey Music
Bennett Rouge
Bereavement Ontario Network
Bridget's Bunnies
Carson Funeral Homes
Casino Rama Festive Fund
City of Orillia
Mariposa House Hospice
Mundell Funeral Home
OMAH
Patti Cox Seniors' Fund
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Township of Oro-Medonte
Township of Severn



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Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that the land which we are gathered on today is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabek Nation; specifically, the Chippewa Tri-Council comprised of the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama and Georgina Island First Nations and more recently the Mississaugas of the Credit River First Nation.

Ontario is covered by 46 treaties and other agreements and is home to many Indigenous Nations from across Turtle Island, including the Inuit and the Métis. These treaties and other agreements, including the One Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, are agreements to peaceably share and care for the land and its resources. Other Indigenous Nations, Europeans, and newcomers were invited into this covenant in the spirit of respect, peace, and friendship.

Most of us have come here as settlers, immigrants, or newcomers in this generation or generations past.

We are all Treaty people. Every day we are mindful of broken covenants, and we strive to make this right. We commit to collaborating based on the foundational assumption that Indigenous Peoples have the power, strength, and competency to develop culturally specific strategies for their communities. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous self-determination, history, and culture, and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation and respect with all First Nation, Métis and Inuit people.

Live Music

Let Somebody Go

By: Coldplay

Performed by: Annalise Stenekes & Frances Heylar of Bennett Rouge

The River

By: Coco Love Alcorn

Performed by: Annalise Stenekes & Frances Heylar of Bennett Rouge

The River chorus

Water heal my body

Water heal my soul

When I go down, down

To the water

By the water I feel whole



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The Mountain

By: Laura Ding-Edwards

Recited by: Deborah Duncan-Randal

If the mountain seems too big today; climb a hill instead
If the morning brings you sadness it's okay to stay in bed
If the day ahead seems heavy and your plans feel like a curse, there is no shame in rearranging, don't make yourself feel worse.

If a shower stings like needles and a bath feels like you will drown,
If you haven't washed your hair for days; don't throw away your crown

A day is not a lifetime,
A rest is not defeat,
Don't think of it as failure, just a quiet, kind, retreat.

It's okay to take a moment from an anxious, fractured mind,
The world will not stop turning while you get realigned.

The mountain will still be there when you want to try again,
You can climb it in your own time, just love yourself till then.



Every Day is a Gift

By: Julie Rohr

Recited by: Annalise Stennekes

Friends, it's been a wonderful life. I leave with some sadness, of course. I wish I could have stayed with you much longer. I had so many memories to make, so much I still wanted to do, say and experience.

But I leave this earthly world with no regrets. I have told the ones I love how much I love them. I have opened my heart to life and had others open their hearts back to me in turn. My life experience has been rich, and beauty filled.

Cry for a time, however long that may be. Feel the grief you feel, as I allowed myself to do. Lean into the pain of goodbye. But eventually, lift your face towards the sun and allow joyful memories to be the lingering thought. Both and.

I hope I brought you joy. I hope I enriched your life experience. I hope I inspired you to reach for strength and love even on the hardest, most painful days. Every day is a gift. May yours be full of beauty and wonder.



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Feel No Guilt in Laughter

Author Unknown

Recited by: David Carson

Feel no guilt in laughter, he'd know how much you care.
Feel no sorrow in a smile that he is not here to share.
You cannot grieve forever; he would not want you to.
He'd hope that you could carry on the way you always do.
So, talk about the good times and the way you showed you cared,
The days you spent together, all the happiness you shared.
Let memories surround you, a word someone may say
Will suddenly re-capture a time, an hour a day,
That brings him back so clearly as though he were still here,
And fills you with the feeling that he is always near.
For if you keep those moments, you will never be apart
And he will live forever locked safely in your heart.



Born Still

Perfect

By: Tricia Richards

Recited by: Theresa Morrison

And yet the beating of your heart was silent
The breath of life from rosebud lips not felt.
Your silken lashes did not flutter,
Unopened eyes never held our gaze.
The grasp of your small fingers still and without strength.
Your arms will never reach for us, feet carry you to your embrace.
And we will never hear the music of your voice.
Or know the sweet fragrance of your skin.
When did the tide of death steal you away?
If we could breathe our own life's breath
Bequeath you minutes days years; we would.
But we are not the author or deliverer of life
We cannot solve the mystery of spirit and of soul
Or remove the shroud of death that holds you still
Sweet child whose life will only ever live within our dreams
We speak your name upon the wind and it is carried far away
But you remain imprinted on our hearts
Forever.



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A Blessing for When You Mourn What Could Have Been

By: Kate Bowler and Jessica Ritchie in their book, "Good Enough"

Recited by: Linda Patton-Cowie

Blessed are you, friend,
sitting among the shards of what could have been.
It is broken now, that dream you loved,
and it has spilled out all over the ground.

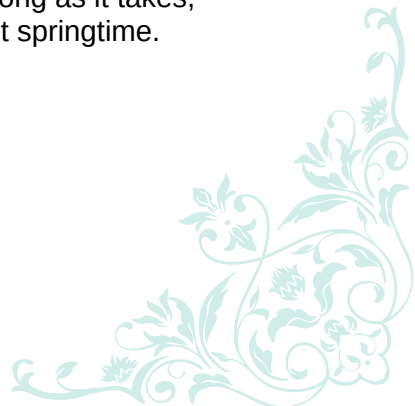
Blessed are you, dear one,
letting your eyes look around and remember
all the hope your dream once contained.
All the love.
All the beauty.

Blessed are you,
telling your tears they can flow.
Telling your anger it can speak.

Blessed are you
when mourning is the holy work of the moment,
for it speaks of what is real.

Blessed are you,
letting this loss speak all its terrible truth to your soul.

Blessed are we who mourn,
saying let us remain in grief's cold winter for as long as it takes,
that mourning might be to our hearts the gentlest springtime.
Let the thaw come slowly,
so we can bear the pain of it
and find comfort at each release.



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Readings



Miss Me But Let Me Go

By: Christina Georgina Rossetti

Recited by: Nicole Johnstone

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little-but not too long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that we once shared
Miss me-but let me go

For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan
A step on the road to home

When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds
Miss me but let me go.



Remember Me

Author Unknown

Recited by: June Gunn

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the laughter,
We've shared throughout the months.
Now I am contented
That my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing that I passed along the way I made
somebody smile
When you are walking down the street
And you've got me on your mind, I'm walking in
your footsteps
Only half a step behind.
So please don't be unhappy
Just because I'm out of sight
Remember that I'm with you
Each morning, noon and night.



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If Anybody's Friend Be Dead

By: Emily Dickinson
Recited by: Tanya Cunnington

If anybody's friend be dead
It's sharpest of the theme,
The thinking how they walked alive-
At such and such a time-

Their costume, of a Sunday,
Some manner of the hair-
A prank nobody knew but them
Lost, in the sepulchre-

How warm, they were, on such a day,
You almost feel the date-
So short way off it seems-
And now - they're centuries from that-

How pleased they were, at what you said-
You try to touch the smile
And dip your fingers in the frost-
When was it - can you tell-

You asked the company to tea-
Acquaintance - just a few
And chatted close to this grand thing
That don't remember you-

Past bows, and invitations-
Past interview, and vow-
Past what ourself can estimate-
That - makes the quick of woe!



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Readings



Remember Me

Speak of me as you have always done.
Remember the good times, laughter, and fun.

Share the happy memories we've made.
Do not let them wither or fade.

I'll be with you in the summer's sun
And when the winter's chill has come.

I'll be the voice that whispers in the breeze.
I'm peaceful now, put your mind at ease.

I've rested my eyes and gone to sleep,
But memories we've shared are yours to keep.

Sometimes our final days may be a test,
But remember me when I was at my best.

Although things may not be the same,
Don't be afraid to use my name.

Let your sorrow last for just a while.
Comfort each other and try to smile.

I've lived a life filled with joy and fun.
Live on now, make me proud of what you'll become.



In Our Hearts

Author Unknown

Recited by: Mayor Hughes

(included in virtual ceremony)

In Our Hearts

We thought of you today.

But that is nothing new.

We thought about you yesterday.

And days before that too.

We think of you in silence.

We often speak your name.

Now all we have are memories.

And your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake.

With which we'll never part.

God has you in his keeping.

We have you in our heart.



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Readings



Untitled Memorial Poem

Author Unknown

Recited by: Mayor Burkett
(included in virtual ceremony)

There's a very special garden
Where the trees of memory grow
Nurtured by the kindness
And concern that good friends show.
The roots are cherished memories of good times in the past.
The branches tender promises that souls endure and last.
It's a place of peace and beauty
Where bright new hopes can start
It's memory's lovely garden that soothes the hurting heart



I Walk with You

Author Unknown

Recited by: Maisy (included in virtual ceremony)

I stood by your bed last night, I came to have a peep. I could see that you were crying, You found it hard to sleep.

I whined to you softly as you brushed away a tear, "It's me, I haven't left you, I'm well, I'm fine, I'm here." I was close to you at breakfast, I watched you pour the tea,
You were thinking of the many times, your hands reached down to me.

I was with you at the shops today, Your arms were getting sore. I longed to take your parcels, I wish I could do more.

I was with you at my grave today, You tend it with such care. I want to reassure you, that I'm not lying there.

I walked with you towards the house, as you fumbled for your key. I gently put my paw on you, I smiled and said "it's me."

You looked so very tired, and sank into a chair. I tried so hard to let you know, that I was standing there.

It's possible for me, to be so near you everyday. To say to you with certainty, "I never went away."

You sat there very quietly, then smiled, I think you knew ...
in the stillness of that evening, I was very close to you.

The day is over and I smile and watch you yawning
and say "goodnight, bless you, I'll see you in the morning."

And when the time is right for you to cross the brief divide,
I'll rush across to greet you and we'll stand, side by side.

I have so many things to show you, there is so much for you to see.
Be patient, live your journey out, then come home to be with me.



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Readings



Seasons Of Grief

By: Belinda Stotler

Recited by: Bernadette Copeland
(included in virtual ceremony)

Shall I wither and fall like an autumn leaf,
From this deep sorrow - from this painful grief?
How can I go on or find a way to be strong?
Will I ever again enjoy life's sweet song?

Sometimes a warm memory sheds light in the dark
And eases the pain like the song of a Meadow Lark.
Then it flits away on silent wings and I'm alone;
Hungering for more of the light it had shone.

Shall grief's bitter cold sadness consume me,
Like a winter storm on the vast angry sea?
How can I fill the void and deep desperate need
To replant my heart with hope's lovely seed?

Then I look at a photo of your playful smiling face
And for a moment I escape to a serene happy place;
Remembering the laughter and all you would do,
Cherishing the honest, caring, loving spirit of you.

Shall spring's cheerful flowers bring life anew
And allow me to forget the agony of missing you?
Will spring's burst of new life bring fresh hope
And teach my grieving soul how to cope?

Sometimes I'll read a treasured card you had given me
And each word's special meaning makes me see,
The precious gift of love I was fortunate to receive,
And I realize you'd never want to see me grieve.

Shall summer's warm brilliant sun bring new light,
And free my anguished mind of its terrible plight?
Will its gentle breezes chase grief's dark clouds away,
And show me a clear path towards a better day?

When I visit the grave where you lie in eternal peace,
I know that death and heaven brought you release;
I try to envision your joy on that shore across the sea,
And, until I join you, that'll have to be enough for me.

For all the remaining seasons of my life on earth,
There'll be days I'll miss your merriment and mirth,
And sometimes I'll sadly long for all the yesterdays;
Missing our chats and your gentle understanding ways.

Yet, the lessons of kindness and love you taught me,
And the good things in life you've helped me to see;
Linger as lasting gifts that comfort and will sustain,
Until I journey to that peaceful shore and see you again.



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a community memorial event

Forever in our Hearts

Ada Chepyha

Alan Malloch

Allen O'Brien

Anna Pilles

Andrew Scarr

Angelo Staffiere

Aubrey Emmerson Twyne

Betty Veley

Bob Doan

Bob Savidant

Chris Forrester

Clarence Veley

Cliff Richards

Clifford Richards

Coos Uylenbroek

Dennis

David Hill

Donald Taylor

Donna

Douglas Gunn

Dylan Barcik

Elizabeth Hill

Irene

Isabella Marguerite Drover

Jay Robb

Joe Bissonette

Joe Simonds

Joel Snowden

Joyce Stafford

Karen Lockwood

Lena King

Mary Ann Hoffman

Nancy Simon

Neddie Majesky

Phyllis Ann Ramsay

Roland Shields

Shane Jennings

Shawn Richards

Speedy Catania

Tyler Bertucci