

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN FUNERAL & MEMORIAL SERVICE GUIDELINES

FUNERAL GUIDELINES

These are guidelines to help in the event of a death in the family. It is a general outline and the procedures may vary with the wishes of the family. The Funeral and 7th Day Service are often combined, and the interment (burial) or inurnment (cremation) service takes place at a later time.

Contact the Church [(916) 383-1831]

Upon contacting the Church, the minister will come to officiate the Makura-gyo (bedside service), which is a short service following death. Always give your name, phone number and directions to your place very clearly.

In case of death in the early hours of the morning, the bedside service may be held at a more convenient time when relatives and close friends are able to attend. The service may be held at the location of death, home, mortuary or the church.

If your residence is unfamiliar to the minister, you can expedite matters by arranging to meet the minister at some well-known location or landmark and leading him to your residence.

Contact a Funeral Home

The following funeral homes have experience with Buddhist funerals, although families can certainly select any they wish:

Klumpp's, 2691 Riverside Boulevard, Phone (916) 443-7917
Sacramento Memorial Lawn, 6100 Stockton Boulevard, Phone: (916) 421-1171
East Lawn, 43rd & Folsom Boulevard, Phone (916) 732-2000
Andrew & Greilich, 3939 Fruitridge Road, Phone (916) 732-2026
Lakeside Colonial Chapel, 830 D St., Marysville, (530) 749-9277

Notify Relatives, Close Friends, and Others

Notify relatives, close friends, and any others you may wish as soon as possible.

Preparation of Funeral Arrangements

The Buddhist Church of Florin's Funeral Committee is available to assist with the preparation of the general arrangements for the funeral. If a simple private family service is desired, the minister will assist in the arrangements for the funeral.

Decide on the funeral date with the minister.

If the deceased has a Homyo (Buddhist name), present to the minister.

Selection of:

Chairman (should be familiar with the Buddhist procedures).

Koden Committee or Receptionists (friends and/or family).

Six–ten (6-10) persons to take care of receiving and recording the Koden (monetary offerings). Also takes care of recording floral pieces received.

Guest book

One or two persons to take care of the guest book.

Ushers (4 or more) who are in charge of:

Distributing funeral programs.

Directing people to seats.

General assistance during service.

Pallbearers (6)

Pallbearers should be at the location of the funeral at least 45 minutes before the service.

Representatives of organizations and friends to offer incense.

Eulogist or speakers to share memories selected by the family.

A relative to express words of appreciation on behalf of the family.

Organist (should be familiar with appropriate Buddhist gathas). Contact church for organist.

Community service organizations such as Kenjin-Kai, JACL, clubs, VFW, etc., can provide assistance and offer incense upon request.

Other preparation items:

Family notifies the Japanese newspapers, while the mortuary may notify the English newspapers. When preparing the obituary notice, the following information should be considered:

Names of survivors and immediate family members.

Names of parents and siblings.

Details of the funeral arrangements.

Brief biography of the deceased.

Guest book and cards of acknowledgement may be provided by the funeral home.

All postal expenses are paid by the family.

Family members are advised to view all floral pieces and names of the senders before the funeral. (Photographs may be taken of each floral piece for personal memory.)

Complete Arrangements with Mortuary

The Funeral Director will offer information and arrange for:

- Preparation of the body

- Casket

- Service Programs

- Cremation or burial

- Plot, urn, niche, headstone, etc.

- Assistance with various necessary paperwork concerning:

 - Social Security benefits

 - Insurance claims

 - Placing obituary news and notice in local papers

 - Death Certificate: In cases where the deceased is not a naturalized citizen, obtain additional death certificate. Two copies are to be sent to the foreign Consulate within seven days.

If you prefer to have the urn placed in a niche in our new columbarium (nokotsudo) at the church [see description and photos at www.florinbuddhist.org], please contact Ron Okimura (202-4589) or Rev. Imamura (383-1831).

Things to Take to the Mortuary

- Ojuzu

- Okesa (if deceased has one)

- Personal clothing (including undergarments, shoes, etc.)

Things to Take to the Temple Before Funeral

1. One (1) large and two (2) medium bouquets of white flowers (order from florist). Although families may select any florist they wish, the following florists have experience with Buddhist funerals,

Kiyo's Floral Shop, 1101 T Street, Sacramento 95814, Phone (916) 446-7136

Royal Florist, 2221 10th Street, Sacramento 95818, Phone (916) 442-3764

2. Osonae (food offerings): 16 white manju (Osaka Ya, 2215-10th Street, Sacramento, Phone (916) 446-6857).
3. Homyo (Buddhist name), if deceased has one.
4. Guest Book
5. Koden acknowledgement cards (signed and sealed).
6. Postage stamps for acknowledgement cards.
7. If no casket, a 8 X 10 picture of the deceased, if desired.

Finance

Listed are the usual expenses and other disbursements related to the funeral arrangements:

(M) Mortuary	(C) Cemetery	(P) Personal
1. Casket		(M)
2. Urn		(M)
3. Plot		(C)
4. Niche, vault, or columbarium (for urn)		(C, BCF**)
5. Headstone		(C)
6. Death Certificate		(M)
7. Funeral Home charges		(M)
8. Flowers (altar, casket, floral pieces)		(P)
9. Postage for acknowledgement letters		(P)
10. Japanese and English newspaper notices		(P)
11. Dana to minister, BCF, organist & organizations		(P)

** if the urn will be placed in the BCF columbarium (nokotsudo)

MEMORIAL SERVICE GUIDELINES

Although by custom, memorial services were held weekly on every 7th day until the 49th day, this memorial service tradition has been abbreviated:

1. 7th Day Memorial (combined with funeral)
2. 49th Day Memorial Service
3. 100th Day Memorial Service (optional)
4. First Obon following death (Hatsubon)
5. Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly Memorial Service). The family observes this service annually on the month of death. The family brings the Homyo to place at the altar.

First Year and thereafter, memorial services are observed during the year before:

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| 1. 1 st year | 5. 17 th year |
| 2. 3 rd year | 6. 25 th year |
| 3. 7 th year | 7. 33 rd year |
| 4. 13 th year | 8. 50 th year |

General information for Memorial Services:

The family is responsible for the following:

1. Make Church/minister reservations early.
2. Memorial services may be held either at church or home.
3. Flowers for altar. [See directions for funeral]
4. Altar food offerings (manju, fruits, etc.)
5. Homyo (Buddhist name) card
6. Photograph of the deceased (optional)
6. Dana to Church and Minister (for suggested dana, see Donation Guidelines)

Typical Service Program [except the Monthly Memorial Service (shotsuki)]

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| 1. Hyobyakumon (aspiration) | Minister |
| 2. Sutra Chanting | Minister |
| 3. Incense Offering | Family/Congregation |
| 4. Dharma talk | Minister |
| 4. Words of Appreciation | Family Member |

**Buddhist Church of Florin
7235 Pritchard Road
Sacramento, CA**

(916) 383-1831 or 508-3800 (cell)