

Grand Commandery of Kansas FEBRUARY 2022 NEWS S:.K:. Roger L. Walls REGC THE MASONIC GRAVESIDE SERVICE

No other Masonic Ritual can be more comforting to the surviving family of a brother mason than the service that celebrates his last great transition—the Masonic Graveside Service—that takes him to his eternal home—that house not made with hands.

I call it a celebration because through the service, the brother is then in the presences of our Grand Architect of the Universe worshiping Him face-to-face, and in the presences of all the brothers who have gone on before him. There he will remain forever and ever in the beauty of holiness.

The Masonic Graveside Service should be done in a very reverent way as to be a comfort to his friends and family. The service should be a service of reassurance to those who remain, that the brother is in the hands of a Being that doeth all things well, that his suffering is no more, his toils have all been completed, and no more tears will fall. The brother is resting in a place of peace—a peace that cannot be taken away by this world, a world that could not give him peace while he was here. There is the assurance that he has received the welcome words of "WELL DONE, THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT. ENTER THOU INTO THE JOYS OF THY LORD."

Those who do the Masonic Graveside Service should do so with the brother's family and friends in mind. The service must be done from and with a compassionate and sincere heart. There is an old saying that I heard many times as a preacher, "THEY WILL SELDOM REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID, BUT THEY WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL."

I take the opportunity to do a Masonic Graveside Service with extraordinary pride. The service is my opportunity to honor that broken chain of our fellowship as masons. To lay a brother to his final rest, is a privilege I hold in high regard. I pray the service be a comfort to those who mourn their loss and be a grand farewell to a good and faithful brother mason.

AMEN SO MOTE IT BE

Your Spiritual and Fraternal Brother in Christ