



AGING AND  
DISABILITY

# **Celebration of Life Checklist For**

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**(Fill in person's name)**

## **Guidelines for using this document**

The primary purpose in doing this preplanning is to give some input and control to the person who is preparing it. Another benefit is that the plan is in place when it is needed.

When preparing a plan it is important:

- \*To take the lead from the person for whom the celebration of life is being planned.
- \*To gather only the information that the person wishes to give; it is not necessary to complete all questions.
- \*To know that you will probably have several conversations.
- \*To realize, that although it may be difficult, it can also be comforting for people to have a plan in place.
- \*To file the information where it can readily be found.
- \*To communicate with the family and substitute decision makers as appropriate.
- \*To use natural opportunities to initiate a conversation: such as attendance at a funeral or spontaneous questions and comments.
- \*To realize that this is an activity that is probably helpful to most of us and can be very affirming.

Can we make a list of people that we should call when you die?

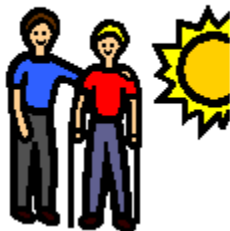
**Family:**

Family



**Friends:**

Friends



Would you like an announcement placed in the newspaper, if so what should it say?



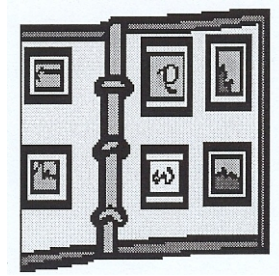
What about a picture?

Would you like people to have a chance to see your body, tell stories, and say good bye to you?



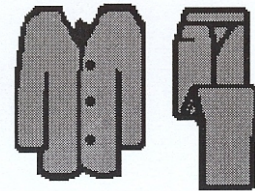
Would you like your casket to be open or closed?

Would you want there to be pictures in the room during the visitation?

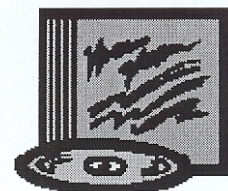


Where should the visitation take place – Do you know a funeral home?

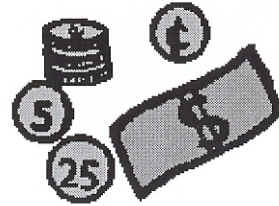
What clothes do you want to be dressed in?



Is there any object that you really like that should be in the room during the visitation?



Would you like people to give flowers or to give money to a charity?



Where should the funeral take place?  
\*At a Church, Synagogue or Mosque

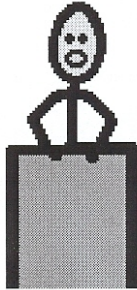


Is there a place of worship that you go to regularly?

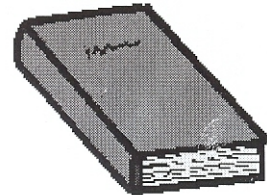
Who should be the Spiritual Leader at the funeral?



Who should talk at your funeral?



Are there any readings that you would like at the service?

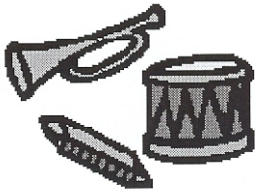


Who should read them?





What music would you like at the visitation or funeral?



What types of music or songs mean a lot to you?

What songs should people sing?

Who should sing?





Who should carry the coffin?



Have you thought about if you would rather be cremated or buried?

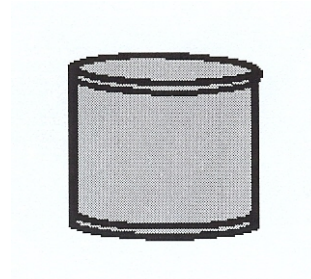
Burial is when the body or ashes are put in the ground.

Cremation is when the body is turned to ashes. In a cremation the ashes are returned in a container that is called an urn.

If you choose to be buried in which cemetery would you like to be buried?

If you choose to be cremated, what would you like to have done with the ashes?

Is there somewhere that you would like to be spread? Do you want them buried or put at a special place in the cemetery?



An urn

Would you like there to be a gathering or reception after the funeral and burial?

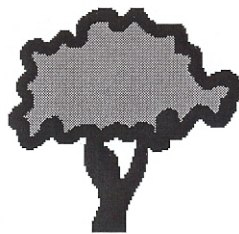


Any ideas about what you think people should do?



Would you like a stone or monument on your grave?

Should people plant a tree somewhere in remembrance of you?



Do you want to talk to someone who works at a funeral home to pre-plan some of these soon?

