

# Memorial Service For Married Person Who Committed Suicide

## Name of Deceased

(Date of Birth – Date of Death)

**Purpose:** To provide comfort and hope with a sensitive caring attitude. Acknowledge the pain of grief and affirm the hope of the Gospel.

We cannot fix the situation. We cannot explain the circumstances. Most of the people are so distracted in their own guilt and misery that they won't hear much of what is said. That is not to say that we can't bring peace and healing to those in the room.

### Opening Statement

As we come together this morning we are still in shock. Two peaceful and loving families have been desperately shattered. And their friends and their community are stunned.

What can we say? There's so much we don't know, there's even more we don't understand. So our lips must be guarded.

But we can say this: " \_\_\_\_\_ [Mother/Father of Deceased], you raised a beautiful daughter; and \_\_\_\_\_ (Husband/Wife of Deceased), you loved and cared for \_\_\_\_\_ as she struggled with a disease most of us cannot understand..

\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Children of Deceased) you've lost your mother.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Sisters of Deceased) you lost your sister.

And \_\_\_\_\_ (Grandchild of Deceased), you've only know your grandmother/grandfather for a short time.

All of us grieve with and for you all.

The passing of a loved one, a wife/husband, a mother/father, grandmother/grandfather, and a friend is always a great loss and a sad occasion. Processing \_\_\_\_\_'s passing has been difficult for each of us.

As we come together today we want to remember the good times we had with \_\_\_\_\_.

## Read Obituary

Insert obituary here

## Funeral Meditation

A week ago, no one could have predicted that we would be here this morning.

It is impossible to know the kind of pain and struggle \_\_\_\_\_ lived with. She/He hid much of it from the people who were closest to her.

Because we look for explanations for her/his death to make sense, we grab at any reasonable logic to figure it all out. But, you can't figure it out.

This sometimes fatal illness changes how we think and turns rational logical thinking and problem solving upside down.

That means that there are going to be no real answers to our biggest questions about \_\_\_\_\_'s death. We either have to live with that or we have to make things up.

Sometimes we just have to accept that we don't and never will have the answers.

It is quite normal to feel guilty or question what you could have done to help \_\_\_\_\_, that's quite normal.

Dying and death are not beautiful. And, when we heard of \_\_\_\_\_'s death we all reacted.

1. It is natural to have a **REACTION**.

There is the initial shock. And from there the reaction varies. Some weep - some do not. Some withdraw – some do not

Illustration: John 11:17-21 & 30-37

Mary & Martha were both torn by the loss of their brother, a person they deeply loved. And they responded differently. Martha said to Jesus,

“Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died.” Mary stayed at the house – mournful contemplation

It is OK to have a reaction.

## 2. We REFLECT and we REMEMBER

We remember the person and we remember the happy times we spent together, sharing the special occasions and family traditions.

### Sharing of some memories by Family members and Friends

(Be careful here: Try to determine when you meet with the family before the service who will be sharing. I am not a fan of opening the sharing up to the whole audience)

### **We Will Remember You**

At the rising of the sun and at its going down – We will remember you  
At the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter - We will remember you

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring - We will remember you

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer - We will remember you

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn - We will remember you

At the beginning of the year and when it ends - We will remember you  
As long as we live, she too will live on; for Tammy was a part of us and we will remember her

Cherish the memories

\_\_\_\_\_ (Husband/Wife), you loved (\_\_\_\_\_) and he/she was the sunshine of your life.

The family would like us to listen to (Song picked by the Family)

## We REALIZE

1. How quickly life passes.

- Life is a Gift
- Psalm 90:9 says we live our life as a sigh

2. That death is not the end.

- When death comes there is a release: spirit from the body
- There is a reception in heaven
- There is a requirement - John 3:16

Remember **John 3:16**: “For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

## **Verses of Comfort**

In John 11:25 “Jesus said, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

Romans 5:8, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:31-39, “What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

## **Concluding Prayer**

In time turn our grief into gratitude for the time we had together.

May the good memories \_\_\_\_\_, the peace of God, and the grace of God be with each person as we continue our journey in the days ahead.  
Amen

**Playing of appropriate song/music as people pay final respects.**