

Funeral Ceremonies

Ritual: Pages 153-159

Alternative Ceremony- Pages 161-162

Book of Instruction - Graveside Service – Pages - 86-87

Funeral Ceremony:

- When requested by the family, an Eastern Star Service may be performed for a member in good standing.
- This service is usually done in conjunction with some other religious service held at a church or funeral home, or it may be used at the graveside.
- No special dispensation is required.
- Officers may or may not wear their badges.
- A floral five-pointed star is usually provided, and each Star Point may give an appropriate floral token after her tribute. The ceremony should be committed to memory if possible.

Alternative Ceremony:

- This service may only be used for former members who have been issued a demit or were suspended for nonpayment of dues.
- This service may begin with the sharing of some information about the Sister or Brother.

Draping the Charter:

Book of Instruction: Pages 88-89

- Prior to the opening of the meeting, the Marshal should place the Charter near her/his chair if it is not already within easy reach on a nearby wall or easel.
- Draping of the Charter may be done under New Business or for the Good of the Order.
- Appropriate music may be played or sung softly. If the WM is choosing for music to be shared, she should communicate with the Organist prior to the meeting so that the Organist can prepare.
- The drape may be removed after the close of Chapter or until the next meeting. Some Chapters will leave the drape on longer and have one draping ceremony for members last during the year.
- **The Charter must be draped at the next stated meeting when the Chapter receives a memorial card from the Grand Chapter office.**
- It is always appropriate to use the Resolution of Respect form. A copy is retained in the minutes of the meeting during which the draping of the Charter was performed, and a copy is sent to the family. Copies may be obtained from the Grand Secretary.