



### **Some Options to Consider for Funerals and Memorials:**

**Important note:** It's always best to check with current sources and consult with funeral professionals to be aware of the most up-to-date options and trends. Not all of the options included in this list may be readily available in your community.

**Personalization:** Funerals and memorial services are increasingly becoming more personalized to reflect the unique life of the deceased. This includes customizing decorations, music, and themes that resonate with their interests and passions.

**Eco-friendly Options:** Green burials and environmentally-conscious practices are gaining popularity as people become more environmentally aware. Biodegradable caskets, natural burial grounds, and eco-friendly cremation practices are becoming more common.

**Technology Integration:** The use of technology in funerals and memorial services is on the rise. Live streaming of services allows remote friends and family to participate, and digital memorials and online guestbooks facilitate sharing memories and condolences.

**Celebration of Life:** A shift towards celebrating the life of the deceased rather than mourning their passing is becoming more prevalent. These events focus on sharing joyful memories, uplifting stories, and honoring the positive impact the individual had on others.

- **Living Celebration of Life:** consider having your own personalized send-off so that you can be part of the sharing of stories, memories of connection and saying good-byes in the manner you choose. It could be a gathering big or small, with whomever you wish to invite. Catered, pot luck, at home or a venue.

**DIY and Home Funerals:** Some families are opting for more hands-on involvement in the funeral process, including home funerals where loved ones take care of the body and organize the memorialization themselves.

**Non-Religious Ceremonies:** Secular or non-religious funerals and memorial services are gaining popularity as people seek more inclusive ways to honor the deceased without religious traditions.

**Unique Memorialization:** The rise of unique memorialization options, such as turning ashes into artwork or diamonds, planting memorial trees, or creating custom memorial jewelry, allows for a more personalized and tangible way to remember the departed.

**Charitable Donations:** Instead of flowers, many families are requesting memorial donations to charities or causes that were important to the deceased, reflecting a desire to make a positive impact in their memory.

**Life Story Tributes:** Visual storytelling through multimedia presentations, like video tributes or photo montages, allows for a more engaging and emotionally resonant way to remember the life of the deceased.