

A young woman with long brown hair is sitting cross-legged on a light-colored sofa, smiling as she looks at a silver laptop. She is wearing a red long-sleeved sweater and blue jeans. In the background, a Christmas tree is decorated with red ornaments, white baubles, and small reindeer figurines. The scene is set in a bright living room.

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

during social
distancing



Remembrance services while social distancing means thinking about new ways to honor your families.

This year gave us an extraordinary perspective on our lives. Many dealt with stresses like never before, and those grieving losses need your guidance now more than ever. Your funeral home can play a huge role in the healing process, and your annual remembrance services are often a capstone for people as families reflect on the year. If your community needs or wants to socially distance this winter, remembrance services will need to adapt. Here are some ideas for socially distanced remembrance services.

Online music tribute concert

Invite local musicians to perform a digital concert through Zoom or other video streaming platforms for families to attend together and enjoy music from the safety of their own homes.

Virtual Christmas caroling

Gather your community for a virtual meeting to sing their favorite holiday classics together. Caroling is a traditional way to join in the spirit of the season. Families are encouraged to suggest songs that remind them of their loved ones.



Care packages

Put together a few simple items like a holiday card, cookie decorating kits, ornaments, or scented candles to share with your families. Mail or hand deliver the care packages. This small gesture is sure to bring big smiles to your families when they open their doors. Alternatively, you can make this a drive-by pick up event where families sign up to stop by your firm to get their care packages.



Share tributes on your website

Invite families to leave tributes on a special page on your website for those lost this year. Send an email notification to your families where they can share their memories. These tributes can offer valuable healing and connection to those closest to the lost loved ones.

Send families flowers

Deliver flower arrangements or a seasonal poinsettia to your families reminding them that you're thinking of them around the holidays as your funeral home honors their loved ones.

Drive-in holiday movie

Organize a drive-in movie for your families. Pick a family favorite film, and provide snacks for people to enjoy in their cars during the classic holiday movie.

Community virtual prayer service

Host a virtual meeting that's open for community members to attend in which families may lead prayers for their loved ones. This gives everyone the chance to reflect on the year together and share their thoughts with God in a safe and respectful place.

Outdoor candlelight vigils

Gather your families at an outdoor location with plenty of room for attendees to socially distance and provide each person a burning candle to hold while community members speak about the year and those we have lost. Further personalize the experience by adding the names of loved ones to the candles or another aspect of the service.

Organize a church bell ring

Pick a day and organize local churches to ring their bells at a specific time in honor of all we have lost in the past year. Publicize the event ahead of time to let your community know about the tribute. Many families will appreciate hearing the chimes ring throughout the town.





Hang bells outside

Give families the chance to sign up online for a bell to be hung outside your funeral home in their loved one's honor. The bells are a simple holiday tribute that will look elegant on your doorway. Make it even more personal by adding a loved one's name to each bell. Families can pick the bells up as a keepsake after the New Year.

Religious and nonreligious Zoom services

Host religious and nonreligious Zoom services that allow families a moment to gather and honor the lives of those we lost this year. Offering separate services gives families the opportunity to attend the option they are more comfortable with.

Special tribute Zoom service

Partner with a local church or other officiant and offer special Zoom services in honor of particular demographics in your community: veterans, those who have lost a parent, widows, etc. This helps people identify more strongly with the other people in attendance.



Mail families candles

Send your families candles so that they may light them at home to remember their loved ones this holiday season.

Dedicated ornaments

Invite families to come and hang an ornament on a tree outside your funeral home dedicated to their loved one. That way anyone driving by can see the beautifully decorated tree that commemorates those we've lost this year.

Holiday landing page

Build a unique holiday landing page on your website with a few positive words for your community and the names of all who have passed for visitors of your site to view.



Want to know more about how we
help funeral homes?

Contact us.

info@funeralinnovations.com | funeralinnovations.com | 800-641-0173

