



CHOOSING A CELEBRATION of LIFE CELEBRANT



Julie Carlton

Perth Wedding Celebrants
Authorised Marriage Celebrant
Weddings, Namegivings and Re-affirmation Ceremonies
Celebration of Life (Funeral) Ceremonies
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'Perhaps they are not stars, but rather openings in heaven where the love of our lost ones shines down to let us know they are happy.' Eskimo legend



CELEBRATION of LIFE ceremony

I can assist you to create a Celebration of Life ceremony that honours the life of your loved one. Each ceremony is unique, individually crafted in response to the life story of the one who has passed, and the wishes of the grieving family.

I look forward to being your Celebration of Life celebrant.



FREE CONSULTATION

Finding the right celebrant for your loved one's Celebration of Life (funeral) ceremony is very important. Members of the family may wish to meet several celebrants before finally choosing one.

While I am positive that I have the personal qualities and skills to ensure your Celebration of Life Ceremony will honour your loved family member, I would be only too pleased to meet with you on a no-obligation basis at my home office or at your home.

At that meeting we can discuss your particular needs for the Celebration of Life Ceremony. I will also discuss with you about how I will work with you and your family members to create a ceremony that is meaningful and celebratory of the life that has been lived and lost.

Please contact me to arrange a mutually suitable time - 0416 457 851.



MY BACKGROUND

I am happily married with three adult children, two grandchildren and live in the Hills area of Perth.

I am available to conduct Celebration of Life Ceremonies, mainly in the Midland, Hills or Swan Valley areas, but I am happy to discuss availability for other locations across the metropolitan area.

My professional background has mainly been in the education sector, where for many years I was a Teacher-Librarian and English teacher in independent schools. I also have a small-business background. In partnership with my husband, I have years of experience in importing and retail sales, as well as in the hospitality industry, having owned and run a five-star guesthouse in York for several years. Most recently, I worked as Community Relations Director and Manager at Helena College but recently retired after 17 years in this role.

My mother, Barbara Walton, was a well-known and respected celebrant for over twenty-six years and has now retired.

My sister, Jenny Lynch, is also a celebrant. Together, we form Perth Wedding Celebrants, with a joint website www.perthweddings.com.au

and Facebook page > www.facebook.com/PerthWeddingCelebrants

I have a love and passion for working with couples and families for their major life event ceremonies – marriages, namings, commitment ceremonies and Celebration of Life ceremonies.

I really enjoy working with people to do this important and rewarding work, creating memorable ceremonies.

See my Facebook page > www.facebook.com/juliecarltonfunerals/
and information on my website about funerals
> www.perthweddings.com.au/funerals/



PLANNING YOUR CELEBRATION OF LIFE CEREMONY

As a very experienced Celebrant, Teacher-Librarian and English teacher I have highly developed research skills and a considerable library of resources, including an extensive collection of readings and poetry.

I create each Celebration of Life Ceremony after meeting with you and the family. - a ceremony that will meet your needs, reflecting on and honouring the life of your loved one.

The ceremony can include whatever you wish, including cultural or family customs, traditions or readings.



MEETING WITH THE FAMILY

- A brief initial meeting is obligation free – just to meet with me and to decide you are comfortable with my services and what I can offer
- If you decide to go ahead, then allow about 1-2 hours to gather all the necessary information – see **CHECKLIST FORM**
- Discuss the proposed date, time, venue and Celebration of Life requirements
- Most Celebration of Life Ceremonies / Funerals are only allotted about 30-45 minutes by the Funeral Director
- Payment of the fee (cash or via EFT) should be made prior to the date of the ceremony



CREATING a CELEBRATION of LIFE CEREMONY

- I will walk with you, every step of the way, as together we create the Celebration of Life Ceremony
- Families may borrow a file of resources to assist in choosing readings or poetry OR I can assist you to write your own
- I can then create a unique and personalised ceremony, with consultation and input from the family and friends
- Families are welcome to make any number of appointments, phone and email consultations with me to ensure that the draft ceremony is just what you want for the Celebration of Life Ceremony.



FURTHER APPOINTMENTS

- Unlimited phone calls and emails, plus further visits as required
- Discuss and edit the draft ceremony if necessary

*‘What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose,
for all that we love deeply becomes part of us.’*

Helen Keller





CREATING A CELEBRATION of LIFE CEREMONY

Creating a Celebration of Life Ceremony can be an emotional and daunting process for the family. But remember as your celebrant I am there to assist you every step of the way.

The funeral trend today is to move away from traditionalism - personalization of the funeral service has become the new norm - hence the more modern term Celebration of Life rather than Funeral - but the title of the ceremony is a personal choice.

If you're a family member planning or arranging a funeral, you have the freedom to choose exactly which products and services you think fit best with your needs.

Funeral or Celebration of Life Ceremonies can vary in style, tone, and content just as widely as the unique personalities of the one who has passed, so the options for celebrating the life of a loved one can accommodate the preferences and wishes of the family.

It can actually be somewhat daunting to plan a ceremony, whether you want a *traditional service*, more of a *life celebration*, or something in-between, I can create the ceremony that honours your loved one in the way that you would want him or her to be remembered.

Each of us has a one-of-a-kind personality, a different life story, and a truly unique array of interests and passions. This is how you will want your loved one to be remembered, and celebrated, in their Celebration of Life Ceremony.



CELEBRATION of LIFE - ORDER OF CEREMONY

The order of service doesn't vary too much – whether it is for a cremation or a burial. See below for a suggested order of service that will give you some idea of what is usually included in the ceremony.

Although a burial is usually a graveside service, today it often begins in the chapel of the crematorium or funeral director's chapel and then moves to the graveside for the committal.

Families are usually asked to select music to be played as people enter the chapel, during the reflection and as people leave. The logistics of playing the music are usually handled by the Funeral Director.

1. INTRODUCTION ~ WELCOME ~ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of COUNTRY ~ APPRECIATION for LIFE LIVED

The Celebration of Life celebrant introduces him/herself, welcomes everyone and shares with the guests an introduction of what is to follow. This may include an Acknowledgement of Country if requested.

2. READING

A family member or friend may have a special reading or poem that he or she would like to share to begin the ceremony.

3. EULOGY

The eulogy may be read by a family member or friend, or if the family wishes, the celebrant may read it.

4. OTHER SPEAKERS

Speakers should be known in advance, prepared and included in the service at this time. The celebrant will introduce and support them.

5. REFLECTION

The reflection is a time to pause and ponder on memories of the person being

honoured. It is usually a quiet time to remember special times shared.

Often those attending are invited to come forward and place a tribute on the coffin – or just to say a silent goodbye. Tributes may just be sprigs of rosemary, taken from a basket.

The family may choose to play some appropriate music at this time. There could also be projected a photographic slideshow of the person's life.

6. LORD'S PRAYER or PSALM 23

Despite having a civil ceremony some families do also request the inclusion of the Lord's Prayer or Psalm 23 – The Lord is my Shepherd - but this is optional depending on family wishes.

7. COMMITTAL

The committal is the time to say final goodbyes. There could be a special reading or blessing given at this time (read by the celebrant, a friend or family member), followed by chosen music.

8. CONDOLENCES

The celebrant takes the opportunity to extend deepest sympathies to the family, extended family members, partner and special friends.

9. EXPRESSION of THANKS

On behalf of the family, the celebrant thanks the Funeral Directors for their care and compassion, and thanks all those present for their attendance, understanding and support.

10. FURTHER DETAILS

The celebrant invites attendees to join the family for refreshments afterwards in the Funeral Directors' rooms, or at a family residence for further refreshments, or invites attendees to follow the funeral vehicles to the location of the graveside burial.



FEES

There is no set celebrant fee schedule for civil ceremonies in Australia. As such, some funeral celebrants charge less, some considerably more than my fees. It is important for couples to ask just exactly what is provided for the fee, especially if the celebrant's services are included in a funeral company's 'package' fee.

But remember – you **do not** have to have the Funeral Director's choice of celebrant. You can **choose** your celebrant – someone you feel comfortable with and who you are confident will honour your loved one with a ceremony you have ownership over and have contributed to according to family wishes.

My Celebration of Life ceremony fee is **\$450.00** which includes the following:

- Unlimited number of personal meetings, phone and email consultations to ensure that the creation of your ceremony is just what you want!
- Creation of a unique and personalised Celebration of Life Ceremony based on consultation and input from the family.
- A beautifully presented and bound copy of the ceremony to keep.
- Travel up to 70km round trip between my home office and the ceremony venue. (Note: Extra travel may be charged @ 74c per kilometre)
- PA system provided if required, although most Funeral Service companies provide audio and visual equipment for the ceremony.



Julie Carlton

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STATEMENT OF FEES as at 1 January 2019

TAX INVOICE NO:

Statement of Fees payable for the Celebration of Life Ceremony for

Date of ceremony: _____ Time of ceremony: _____ am/pm

Venue address: _____

FEE for CELEBRATION of LIFE CEREMONY

\$450.00

Fee includes:

- Visits and appointments with the family, during the preparation of the ceremony
 - Unlimited phone calls and emails during the drafting process
 - Loan access to celebrant's 'Creating your Ceremony' files
 - Rehearsal 'run through' at celebrant's home or family home (if required)
 - Presentation copy of the Celebration of Life Ceremony
 - Travel expenses for 70kms round trip from celebrant's home office
- NOTE: If travelling exceeds 70kms in total, a fee of 74c per additional kilometre is payable.*

PAYMENT

The fee is payable prior to the date of the ceremony. Payments may be made in cash or electronically via direct deposit into the following account:

WESTPAC Account name: Julie Carlton

BSB 036-122 Account number: 337888

REFERENCE Surname Initial eg SmithJ

REFUNDS and SPECIAL CONDITIONS

In the event of changes initiated by the client (ie changes to venue, date, time or other details) which the celebrant cannot accommodate, the celebrant will endeavour to find a replacement celebrant.

AGREEMENT

We confirm the above arrangements regarding the date, time and venue of the Celebration of Life Ceremony and agree not to make any changes to these arrangements without prior consultation with, and acceptance by the celebrant.

We accept the schedule of fees as outlined above.

SIGNED: _____ for and on behalf of the family

SIGNED: _____ Julie Carlton, Celebration of Life Celebrant

DATE: _____



MY COMMITMENT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Every Celebration of Life ceremony is unique.

Most families want to engage a celebrant who offers a high standard of service, is professional at all times, creative, enthusiastic and willing to do whatever it takes to ensure that the Celebration of Life Ceremony is just perfect to honour your loved one.

- I will offer professional advice on all aspects of your ceremony.
- I will create (and/or assist the family members to create) a ceremony that is meaningful, personalised and unique.
- I will at all times offer an exemplary standard of conduct and service that is caring, dignified, respectful and professional, in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Funeral Celebrants.
- I will always respect your confidentiality and privacy.
*Any information provided by clients is maintained in confidence. Information relating to your ceremony is stored securely and is accessed only by me.
I guarantee that any client information or details of your ceremony are not disclosed, for any purpose, to any other person or business.*
- I will dress in a manner that is suitable and appropriate for the occasion.
- I will conduct the Celebration of Life Ceremony in a professional and dignified manner.
- I will present the family with a printed, bound copy of the ceremony at the conclusion. PDF copies may be emailed to other family members on request.
- After the ceremony, I will seek your feedback.

I look forward to meeting you to discuss your Celebration of Life requirements further.

I would be honoured to be involved in creating a very special ceremony for your much-loved family member.



Julie Carlton