

As a Civil Celebrant, I am totally independent of any religious or humanist organization. This leaves me free to create a service that is totally bespoke, relevant only to the beliefs and wishes of the deceased and their family.

All of my services are moving and unique, centered on the celebration of life and commemorating the life of your loved one. They are perfect for those who want something more personal and meaningful than a traditional ceremony

I look forward to speaking with you soon, and hope that, together, we can create exactly the service you need.

Graduate of the White Lily Training Academy

*Member of the Association of Independent Celebrants
www.aaic.org.uk*

Things you may wish to consider when deciding on the content of the service:

- Where the deceased was born and grew up
- Siblings and family members they grew up with
 - School days and childhood stories
- Partners, children, grandchildren and other family members
 - Closest friends
 - Armed forces/National Service
 - Career plans and places of work
 - Groups and societies belonged to
 - Interests and achievements
 - Favourite memories
 - Musical tastes
 - Sayings and stories
- What will you most remember them for?
- Did the deceased make any personal requests about their own funeral?
 - Will anybody else be speaking at/participating in the service?

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Alan Feeney



*Independent Civil
Funeral Celebrant*

SERVICES

Non-religious (Humanist) Service

My name is Alan Feeny, a civil celebrant and member of the Association of Independent celebrants. I write and conduct Funeral Services throughout the Worcestershire Area.

The services I write are as individual as the people they honour, with each service written from details and stories provided by the family and friends of the deceased. This enables me to create and deliver a fitting and dignified tribute that remembers everything that made that person so special to those gathered to remember them. Although our time together will be brief, I will help you and provide advice for this most important of tasks, and guide you at a time when your grief is at its most sensitive stage.

The Funeral Service is an essential part of the grieving and healing process, and the Celebration Of Life Services I provide give everyone present a safe environment in which to share their feelings, Celebrate the life of your loved one and to say a final goodbye.

Nowadays, many people have their own views on life, death and religion and not everyone wants a traditional religious funeral, as it would not best fit the wishes of the deceased or the family. Engaging the services of a Civil Celebrant enables you to reflect the wishes of your loved one and will be held in a setting that makes you more comfortable in celebrating the life of the person who has died.

A funeral is always going to be sad occasion, as it is a time to say your last goodbyes, but it need not be a sombre affair, the ceremonies I create a designed to be positive and uplifting, with the focus very much on life, not death, and reflecting on what made your loved one special. It will also give you a great comfort knowing you have provided exactly the memorial that the deceased would have wanted.

I will always meet with the family to gather the necessary information, and create the most fitting kind of funeral service. I welcome all ideas and suggestions from as many family and friends as possible, to build a true picture of the deceased, and therefore create a service that is just right for the individual whose funeral is to take place.

You may wish for family or friends to participate and give readings, or poems. You may also wish to add specific pieces of music that your loved one may have enjoyed. I would heartily encourage this, as it will give a last opportunity to say goodbye in a way that has significance for yourself and all those present.

The most important thing is that you let me know everything that the deceased would have wanted, and what you treasured most about them. This will give me the opportunity, with your Funeral Director, to create a service that will ensure you can say goodbye to your loved one in a way that both you, and they, would have wished.

This is a service that has no reference or mention of any form of religion or afterlife and is based on the values of humanism. Something to consider with this type of service is that, although the person who has died may have been atheist or agnostic, those attending the service may have a particular faith, and it is sometimes a good idea to consider a period of quiet reflection if you feel it appropriate, to allow them to say a silent prayer. If the service is being held at a crematorium, then the crucifix or any other religious symbols can normally be removed prior to the service. Your funeral director can arrange this.

Semi Religious Service

More and more people are now finding that they are not associated with the church or that church or mainstream religion has lost its meaning for them, yet still find comfort in the spiritual side. The individual may have their faith, but have no use for it within organised religion, but would still find comfort in a service of spiritual significance. This type of funeral honours the existence of Jesus and the structure of Christianity. It is ideal for a funeral service where the deceased person was a Christian, but not a church-goer.

You would be invited to suggest hymns or prayers, readings or poetry that you would like included in the service. Either yourself or a family member or friend can read these, or if it is too difficult, I can read these for you.

Spiritual Funerals

There are so many people who don't know what they believe. They aren't sure what is waiting but don't want to totally dismiss the idea of the afterlife.

I can conduct an agnostic service that reflects all levels of belief, whatever it may be.

Hymns and biblical readings may hold no particular relevance to your own beliefs or that of the deceased, but you simply find them a comfort while grieving. Participants are always welcomed in suggesting hymns and music of any kind, religious or secular which will make the service more individual and moving.

Additionally, many people find comfort in the blending of many beliefs. This is referred to as "New Age" or "Holistic"

I can provide Holistic services that honour the principles of reincarnation and spirit presence, which may include music, chanting, ritual or angelic and energy focused ceremonies.