

Order of Service at Taunton Crematorium

Entrance music: J.S.Bach – Prelude in C Major

Opening Words – Rev. John Harley

Because I have loved life I shall have no sorrow to die ..
Words from a poem by Amelia Josephine Burr - she goes onto write...

I have sent up my gladness on wings to be lost in the blue of the sky. I
have run and leaped with the rain I have taken the wind to my breast ..
My cheek like a drowsy child to the face of the earth I have pressed.
Because I have loved life I shall have no sorrow to die ..

We gather in this holy place to say our farewells to Eleanor and for the
love and respect that lives in this family to be like a cloak around us in
our grief and remembrances– we are here to acknowledge and hold
dear the sheer life force in Eleanor’s lifetime – we know she loved the
metaphor of the caterpillar transforming into the butterfly and I am sure
she would have urged those who loved her and those who cherished her
friendship to come to face the loss of her physical self and to find
inspiration from her soul, the part of her that flies like a butterfly and is
eternal and indestructable

Reading: She is Gone - John Davis

The Day Thou Gavest – sung by Penny Johns (on CD)

Time to say good bye

A time when people can say goodbye, whether placing a flower on the
coffin, having a quiet moment or saying a few words.

Some words to lead us out of the sharings?

“Everything goes, everything comes back; eternally rolls the wheel of
being. Everything dies, everything blossoms again; eternally runs the
year of being. Everything breaks, everything is joined anew; eternally the
same House of Being is built. Everything parts, everything greets every
other thing again. The center is everywhere. May we stay on the path of
eternity.”

— **Friedrich Nietzsche**

Nietzsche (Nee Chah)

Short prayer followed by Committal.

A little silence for our own personal prayer and reflection

“A little while and I will be gone from among you, whither I cannot tell. From nowhere we come, into nowhere we go. What is life? It is a flash of firefly in the night. It is a breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is as the little shadow that runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset.”

— **Chief Crowfoot**

Committal

Eleanor - we are glad to have known your face, heard your voice, seen your smile and walked with you in companionship and in friendship and in making sense of this life with you. We commit your body to the earth that nurtures and holds us all and cradles all life - may glimpses of your intelligence and vision live on in our lives - may your light and shine endure in future generations - and may our cherished memories of you give us strength and insight as we continue to look for meaning and a sense of the sacred in our many different journeys. Eleanor - we say farewell and we are so grateful for all the ways you touched and formed those around you. May we let go while holding onto the joy and love you brought us. Amen

Closing words and Blessing

Let me finish with the final verse in Amelia Josephine Burr's poem A Song of Living

I give a share of my soul to the world where my course is run.
I know that another shall finish the task I must leave undone.
I know that no flower, nor flint was in vain on the path I trod.
As one looks on a face through a window, through life I have looked on God.
Because I have loved life, I shall have no sorrow to die.

A blessing for you all

**And now may the peace which passes understanding
The peace which comes with acceptance and thanksgiving
The peace of the spirit which rises above all the strains of the earth
Be and abide with us all
Both this day and forevermore
Amen**

Closing Music: The Seekers – Island of Dreams