



# JOHN BANCE & SON

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## FUNERAL HOME

### Writing a Eulogy:

#### **Recognise the honour:**

For many people the fear of public speaking makes writing and delivering a eulogy intimidating. Recognizing the honour and the opportunities can help calm these fears and make the speech more approachable.

#### **Realise your Task:**

The task for the eulogist is to bring the person back into the minds of those assembled.

An effective eulogy uses words to paint a picture for the audience. Creating a picture of the person for the audience can be done by reminiscing, sharing anecdotes, telling stories and talking about the many aspects of the person's life--their family, friends, interests and unique qualities.

A eulogy lets everyone remember the person--who they were, what they did and what they enjoyed about life.

#### **Remember and Recall:**

- Who am I speaking to – make the eulogy appropriate to your audience?
- How would the person like to be remembered?
- What made them special?
- Favourite pastimes and interests, likes and dislikes?
- When were they happiest?
- Who was really close to them?
- What did I really like about them?
- What did other people really like about them?
- What are the highlights of their life story?
- If I could say only three things about them, what would they be?
- Who can help me check my facts?
- Is anyone else planning to speak about the person at the funeral?
- Do we need to avoid saying the same thing twice?
- Be conscious of how long you want your eulogy to be?

#### **Practice:**

It is a good idea to practice reading the eulogy to someone beforehand and ask them for their feedback.