



Sketch by Agnes Bardal Comack

My Wishes & Memories

Funeral and Financial Preparation for Family



In the beginning... by Neil Bardal.

Neil Bardal Inc. was incorporated June 6, 1980 and my wife Annette and I began our new career in funeral service. On that day we received two calls and thus began our journey as a funeral company whose purpose was to respond to people's needs in dealing with a death in the family in a caring and competent manner.

Our greatest strength is the people in our company. Our directors bring their own expertise and personality to their profession and in many ways have developed their own clientele over the years. Our embalmers, cremation staff and administrative people work hand in hand with the front line directors and there is excellent synergism in their working relationship. We start every day with a staff meeting to prepare the myriad of detail that quality funeral service demands.

Neil Bardal Funeral Centre is independently owned and operated by the Bardal family.

When families walk through our door, they are greeted by competent, caring staff in a comfortable setting.

We believe that we are ahead of our time; gaining the trust of our families in conducting funeral and cremation services and offering culturally diverse ways of honouring life.

This and the caring people behind our name is what sets us apart.

Your voice.

Someday this little book will speak for you. By taking a moment now, you can make it speak well. Just follow the instructions, or ask your Neil Bardal Funeral Centre representative to guide you.

The result will be a clear record of your funeral wishes, a source of important documents for legal and public records, and a permanent keepsake of your fondest memories to speak to future generations.

Preparing the book now is a thoughtful gesture your family and friends will appreciate. You'll notice that certain information is requested more than once. This is because funeral duties are typically divided among several participants. Your patience now will ease their tasks when the time comes.

Please store the completed book in a safe but public place in your home. Everyone in your family should know exactly where to find it quickly and easily without a key or the distress of a search.

Your efforts now will lighten your loved ones' burden and ensure that your funeral wishes are honoured.

To my loved ones. I wanted to spare you as much anxiety, grief and expense as possible at the time of my death, so in this booklet I've suggested some arrangements in advance. I hope they relieve some pressure at this difficult time.

This booklet is divided in two. The first section includes vital statistics, funeral service guidelines and cemetery requests, all important to the funeral director while planning the details of my service.

The second section is more personal and provides material for eulogies, obituaries and other remembrances.

Please accept these arrangements in the spirit they are given: With love, hoping to soothe your hurt and help you remember the best times we shared.

Signature _____ Date _____

A gentle suggestion: You may want to enhance the second section of this booklet - your 'remembrances' - by using some of the questions as thought-starters and recording your memories on audio or video tape. You can ask a family member to serve as the 'interviewer' to help you preserve the highlights of your life, in your words, painted with your details. Please give this notion serious consideration. What may seem frivolous to you now can become a priceless treasure for those left behind.

Section one: **Information for the funeral director**

When this section is thoroughly completed, the funeral director will have all the information needed to assist your family in making final arrangements as easy and as meaningful as possible.

Specifically, the section will help your funeral director identify the people responsible for making funeral arrangements, file necessary papers, guide your family's claims for survivors' benefits and arrange the details of your funeral with clarity on key matters.

First person to be notified upon my death:

Name _____
Street address _____
Province _____
Postal code _____
Telephone number _____
Relationship _____

Vital statistics about me:

Name	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Postal code	_____
Social insurance number	_____
Date of birth	_____
Sex	_____
Resided in present city since	_____
Resided in present province since	_____
Place of birth	_____
Citizen of what country	_____
Occupation	_____
Employer	_____
Business	_____
Years employed	_____
Education - years completed	_____
Marital status	_____
Name of spouse	_____
Maiden name	_____
Veteran's service or regimental number	_____
Rank	_____
Name of any war	_____
Place and date entered service	_____
Place and date discharged	_____
Father's name	_____
Father's place of birth	_____
Mother's name including maiden name	_____
Mother's place of birth	_____
Contact information for executor	_____

My preferences for the service:

Funeral director		
Place of service		
Type of service		
Clergy or lay person		
Special requests		
Preferred casket		
Glasses	<input type="radio"/> Remove	<input type="radio"/> Leave on
Jewelry	<input type="radio"/> Leave to family	<input type="radio"/> Leave on
Clothing	<input type="radio"/> Purchased	<input type="radio"/> Selected
Pallbearers		
Lodge, society or fraternal organization		
Music		
Readings		

These are my wishes regarding the final disposition of my remains.

Name of cemetery	
Location	
Property, crypt or niche owned?	
If yes, specific location	
Final disposition	<input type="radio"/> Earth burial
	<input type="radio"/> Mausoleum entombment
	<input type="radio"/> Cremation/Inurnment
	<input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) _____
Memorial Marker	
Type	
Inscription	

Information for the media, family and clergy

A funeral should honour the life lived. And because your life is unique, its memorial should evoke your distinctive qualities.

This section will help participants in your funeral focus on how you wish to be remembered. Afterward, it will be a treasured keepsake of your life. You may wish to use a video or audio recorder to tape your responses, and perhaps have a family member interview you.

Information for the newspapers:

In times of grief, survivors can overlook information crucial to a well-written obituary. Your thoughtfulness here will provide a complete record for their use.

Spouse, widow or widower of

Place of death

Date of death

Children and their places of residence

Grandchildren and their places of residence

Siblings and their places of residence

Donations to favourite charities

Place of birth / Date of birth

Education

Married / Wedding date

Religious affiliation

Clubs and lodges

War Record

Employment Information

**Personal remembrances and life review
for the funeral and eulogy:**

I would like the following beliefs
expressed at my funeral

Some significant accomplishments in my life

One of my fondest memories

One of the greatest inspirations in my life

Occupation	
Employer	
Business Associates	
Hobbies	
Favourite places	
Affiliation	
House of worship	
Address	
Member since	
Activities and offices held	

Organizations (service clubs, lodges,
societies, fraternities, sororities)

Organization activities

My favourite poem or scripture

My favourite song or music

My favourite flower

My favourite colour

My unfinished work

My pets

My favourite things

I want my family to remember me for

[illegible]

Location of important papers:

We all accumulate important papers. Some have sentimental value, such as graduation certificates, letters from loved ones, commendations from fellow workers or employers, etc. Others have financial value, such as stocks and bonds, wills, savings account passbooks, deeds, veterans records and insurance policies.

You can spare your survivors the distress of searching for important papers (and the anxiety of fearing something’s still missing) simply by indicating where everything is stored.

Birth and marriage certificates	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Insurance policies	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Will and testament	<div></div>
Computer, internet and social media passwords	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Bank accounts and numbers	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Stock and bond certificates	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Military records	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

Automobile record	
Year and make of car	
Location of papers	
Description of property owned	
Location	
Mortgage holder	
Information on benefits available from any retirement plan may be obtained from	
Safe deposit box	
Attorney	
Physicians	
My credit cards and numbers	

Friends and Relatives to be Notified: Everyone has special friends and infrequently seen relatives who have been particularly close over the years. By recording their names and addresses here, you can be sure these special people will be notified.

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

Name	_____
Relationship	_____
Street address	_____
Province	_____
Telephone number / email address	_____

My family tree:

Please take a few moments to jot down your recollections of what breathed life into these names. A space is provided for you to preserve living memories - just a quick phrase about what endeared these people to you and others - under each entry.

Maternal Grandmother	Maternal Grandfather	
My Mother		
My Name		
My Child	My Child	My Child
My Grandchildren	My Grandchildren	My Grandchildren

Paternal Grandmother

Paternal Grandfather

My Father

My Spouse

My Child

My Child

My Child

My Grandchildren

My Grandchildren

My Grandchildren

To the survivors:

A few thoughts on how to deal with bereavement.

Death is the most natural thing we do, but modern culture has made it hard to grieve naturally. We often tend to bottle our sadness inside. This only makes the process more difficult and less complete.

It's important to share your feelings of loss with others. A sensitive funeral ceremony is an important first step, but the weeks and months following are crucial, too. Neil Bardal Funeral Centre urges you to seek out family, friends, clergy or a professional therapist, even if you feel you're coping well. This can be particularly important for children.

The pain of loss is a natural part of death, and it has a purpose. Properly acknowledged and experienced, your hurt will eventually subside and leave in its wake the best and most tender memories of your loved one.

Things I Must Do Now

Remember to:

- prepare a will
- designate my executor(s) (the person(s) responsible for carrying out the terms of my will)
- record financial information, income, savings, investments, outstanding debts
- carefully think through and decide on, arrangements for remains
 - ground or crypt burial
 - cremation
 - body donated to science
 - contact organ donation registry
- contact funeral home
- contact cemetery
- arrange for care of pets
- after completing this book, inform family of its location

Be flexible:

- Add or delete as necessary

Garden of Memories

Not a cemetery, nor a grave, but a sanctuary, our Garden Of Memories is a special place designed to perpetuate the memory of loved ones. Thereafter, visiting rights on any Sunday is possible, within our spacious and comfortable facility, and through all seasons.

Our Garden Of Memories is an innovative concept ahead of its time that will be of interest to you and your family. Visit our facility at 3030 Notre Dame Avenue, across from Brookside Cemetery in Winnipeg.



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