



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Making The South Shore A Better Place

Words We Live By

At Keohane Funeral and Cremation, every life has a story worth honoring. That belief has always guided us, and now it's reflected in our new motto:

Every story. Any style. Always personal.

What hasn't changed is our commitment to time-honored traditions. We continue to offer the full range of traditional funeral and memorial services that families have trusted for generations. What has evolved is the freedom to personalize those traditions or reimagine them entirely.

Whether your family prefers a classic service, a contemporary celebration of life, or something uniquely meaningful, our role is to listen, guide, and help bring your vision to life. No two stories are the same, and remembrance should reflect that.

Every story. Any style. Always personal. We promise to honor you and the people you love your way.



EVERY STORY.
ANY STYLE.
ALWAYS PERSONAL.

Q&A:

A Conversation with Ed Keohane

Reflecting on 60 Years of Service, Family, and Community

Q: What first inspired you to enter the funeral profession, and did you ever imagine a 60-year career?

Ed Keohane: My father started the business in 1932, and I joined in 1965, so funeral service was always part of my world. Still, I never imagined I'd be here 60 years later. Over time, the profession naturally weaves itself into your life, and before you know it, it becomes a meaningful part of who you are.

Q: What has kept you committed to this work for six decades?

Ed: The simple answer is helping families. That's always been the reason. The way we do that has changed over the years. Funerals once happened in homes, my father even had a storefront, but the purpose hasn't changed. Our job is to find ways to help, in any way we can.

Q: Keohane is often described as feeling different from other funeral homes. Why do you think that is? Looking back, what moment or accomplishment are you most proud of at Keohane Funeral & Cremation?

Ed: I think it boils down to longevity and loyalty. At Keohane, people don't just build careers; they build lives. Many employees stay 10, 20, or even 30 years, because it feels more like family than a job. We hear it in surveys as well. Families often tell us,

"You all feel like family,"

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John Keohane, Ed Keohane, and Dennis Keohane

and that's the greatest compliment we can receive. This work requires genuine connection, and that comes from genuine people.

Q: You've worked with countless families, all with different personalities and needs. How do you approach that?

Ed: The only constant is learning how to love people as they are. Everyone is different: mothers, fathers, siblings, etc. Meaningful connection looks different for each person. Our goal is always to meet people where they are and offer what they need in that moment.

Q: How has being part of the South Shore community shaped your career?

Ed: I've always been social, always enjoyed being involved. I'm active in the Quincy Rotary Club for many years, and I truly believe service is the rent you pay for the space you occupy. If you're part of a community, you have a responsibility to give back to it.

Q: Has funeral service changed the way you see people and society?

Ed: Absolutely. This profession makes it clear that we're not all the same, and that's okay. Society doesn't always hold one another up the way it used to, but we try to be open and present when people need us most. You don't have to fix everything; it's often just about showing up.

Q: What qualities do you believe are essential in a funeral director?

Ed: Compassion, kindness, and thoughtfulness... and not in a scripted way. You need a range of personalities on a team because families are all different. Empathy isn't something you can fake. It must be natural.

Q: What advice would you give to someone considering a career in funeral service?

Ed: Not everyone is compatible with this work, and that's important to understand. Your personality matters. You need to be comfortable with people, with emotion, and with service because this profession is about others, not you.

Q: How do you think society's relationship with loss has changed over the years?

Ed: Life, love, and loss have all changed. Life isn't only about you; love is your job, and your contribution; and loss, even death, is a natural part of living. I think we're still learning how to talk about that openly, and education plays a big role in helping people understand that.

Q: When people talk about your legacy, how do you think about that?

Ed: I don't think it's up to me to write my legacy. That's for others to decide. All I've ever tried to do is help people, care for families, and serve the community honestly. If that's what people remember, that's enough.



"Kathy Kane did a fabulous job. It takes a special person to handle this type of job, and she does it with the utmost sympathy and compassion. I am impressed with the Aftercare service with you, Carla. This is great to have you walk alongside us and give us good direction moving forward."

~ Lori B.



"I had a great experience with Keohane Funeral Home. Carolyn walked me through everything and all went smoothly and it was as easy as possible. The Aftercare with Elizabeth was definitely helpful going over the areas of the estate. Keohane had been a sponsor of my son's soccer team so this was a step in their favor when considering a funeral home."

~ Stephanie S.

Pets

A Bond That Deserves to Be Remembered

For many families, pets are far more than companions; they are family. They share in our daily routines, offer unconditional love, and leave an indelible mark on our hearts. When a pet dies, the grief can be just as profound as the loss of any loved one, and it deserves to be acknowledged and honored.

At Keohane, we believe that every bond matters. Our office manager, Tracey, recently experienced the loss of her beloved dog, Chief. To honor that special relationship, Keohane Co-President Dennis Keohane created a personalized prayer card for Tracey, including Chief's name alongside her deceased family members.

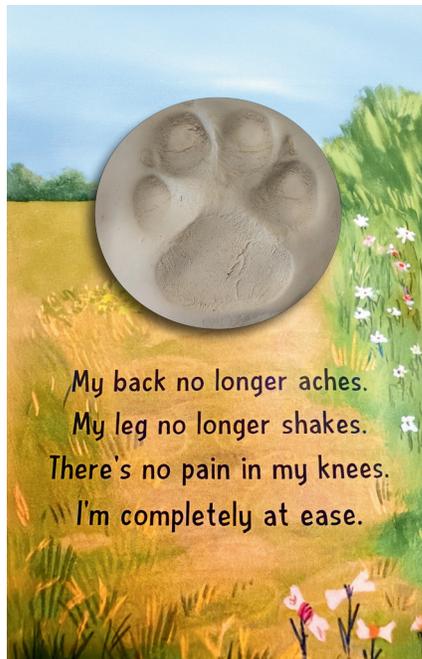
This small but meaningful gesture reflected our belief that pets hold a lasting place in the families who love them.

Pet funerals and memorial services provide families with an opportunity to pause, reflect, and say goodbye in a way that feels personal and healing. Whether through a prayer card, a small gathering, or a private moment of remembrance, these rituals can offer comfort and validation during a difficult time.

We are honored to support families grieving the loss of a pet. If you have lost a beloved animal companion, Keohane offers the option to create a prayer card in their memory free of charge as one way to honor their life and the love you shared.

If you'd like to request your own custom card, please email dennis@keohane.com.

For support with pet loss and grief, please visit <https://www.aplb.org/>.



Supporting Families Beyond the Service



Losing a loved one is devastating, and the emotional pain is often only the beginning. Many grieving spouses face unexpected financial and logistical challenges that compound their grief.

That's why Keohane offers its Full-Circle Aftercare program: hands-on, practical support designed to guide families through the administrative tasks that follow a death, so they can focus on healing.

This service includes help navigating pension plans, credit cards, bank accounts, insurance, estate education, protection against fraud, solicitors, and so much more. We are the only funeral home in the area that provides this unique resource.

At Keohane, care doesn't end with the service. Families receive ongoing aftercare, helping them move forward with clarity and confidence.

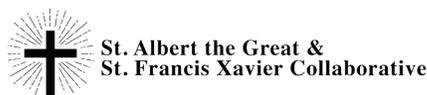
Our team assists with organizing important documents, understanding next steps, and connecting families with resources for probate, estate matters, and essential paperwork.

Perhaps most importantly, this comprehensive aftercare is included, eliminating surprise costs during an already overwhelming time. Families who partner with Keohane are never left to navigate loss alone. We're here for both the goodbye and everything that comes after.

KEOHANE IN THE COMMUNITY

To best serve our communities, we need to actively support them.

We are proud to sponsor these local organizations, among others:



FEATURED OBITUARY

A Life Well Lived



John A. Salkowski

John A. Salkowski, longtime member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, world traveler, and man of many talents, passed away on Sunday, January 4, 2026, leaving a rich legacy of music, laughter, and generosity.

He was born in Chicago, IL, on June 4th, 1937, to Adelle (Kavalauskas) and John J. Salkowski and raised in the Cicero and Berwyn suburbs. Driven by a deep love for music and performing, John earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Northwestern University, laying the foundation for a lifelong career in music. He never once failed to win an audition in his life, a testament to his skill, preparation, and quiet confidence.

John's career began with orchestras in New Orleans, St. Louis, and Cleveland, which led up to his remarkable 40-year tenure as a bass player with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops, where he played with legendary artists that helped shape more than four decades of memorable music.

A true citizen of the world, John traveled to every corner of the globe, including musical tours he organized and led. From China and Russia to Antarctica, always curious, always absorbing the wonder of each place. His dry sense of humor and colorful stories enlivened every gathering. He enjoyed food, especially the nostalgic bite of a Chicago hot dog or tavern-style pizza, which

brought him home to his childhood. Outside the concert hall, he loved skiing in New Hampshire and in Europe, fishing, and scuba diving in Boston Harbor. He was equally passionate about giving back: he gifted his cherished 1835 Kennedy bass to the Boston Symphony Orchestra and included a bequest in his will to continue inspiring future musicians.

John's music will continue to resonate in hearts and halls alike, an enduring tribute to a life lived fully, beautifully, and with great generosity.

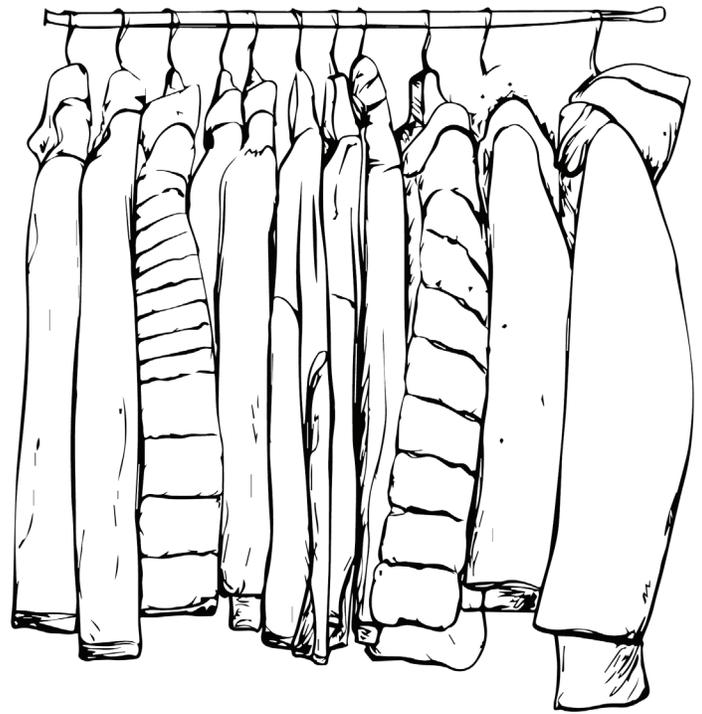
Beloved husband to the late Helen M. (Ryan) Salkowski. Devoted father to John William Salkowski of Plymouth. Loving brother to Allan Salkowski (Gene) of Lemont, IL. Also survived by his nephew, Peter Salkowski (Marita) of Cold Spring, KY and niece, Joan Robbins (Dan) of Winfield, IL.

Relatives and friends gathered with the family during visiting hours on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at Keohane Funeral Home in Quincy.

A funeral service was held, followed by a private burial at Blue Hill Cemetery in Braintree.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Community Connections.

OUR 14TH ANNUAL *Coat Drive*



Team Keohane was proud to come together for our 14th Annual Coat Drive, in partnership with Dependable Cleaners and Interfaith Social Services.

Thanks to the generosity of our community and the continued support of Dependable Cleaners, 500 clean coats were donated to help keep our neighbors warm throughout the winter.

These coats were distributed by Interfaith Social Services to individuals and families in need in the months following the drive.

We're grateful to be part of a community that consistently shows up for one another, especially when it matters most.



“We were very pleased with McDonald Keohane Funeral Home. We had used them a few years ago when my dad passed, so there was no question about returning to them when we lost our mom. The team at McDonald Keohane was wonderful in accommodating every request and truly made a difficult time much easier for our family. Their Aftercare service was also exceptional. Alison guided us through a detailed checklist, which we found extremely helpful. We would highly recommend McDonald Keohane to others.”

~ Julianne Narcisco



Pre-plan for Peace of Mind

While thinking about one's own funeral can feel uncomfortable and surreal, more adults are discovering that with Advanced Planning comes both emotional reassurance and financial clarity. At Keohane, we ensure that the process is straightforward and supportive.

Pre-planning your funeral allows you to make important decisions in a calm and thoughtful setting, long before they're ever needed. It grants you the opportunity to take control of the details that matter most to you, and, perhaps most importantly, it's a meaningful way to ease the emotional burden on your loved ones during an already difficult time.

We're Here to Help

It all begins with a meeting with one of our experienced funeral directors to discuss your wishes, share biographical information, identify family members, select meaningful items and details if desired, and review payment options. Families often tell us that when a loved one took the time to plan with Keohane, it made all the difference by providing guidance, comfort, and relief during a moment when decisions can feel overwhelming.

Our funeral directors specialize in working with individuals and families interested in pre-planning and are always available to answer questions or offer guidance. You can begin the process by contacting us directly or by completing our secure online pre-planning form. We're here to help every step of the way.

Beyond offering you the chance to create an individualized service, the pre-planning itself can be individualized as well and is always rooted in

empathy. We're happy to meet with you wherever you feel most comfortable, including in your own home or at one of our funeral homes.

Give the Gift of Advanced Planning

A funeral is ultimately for those left behind, which is why communicating your wishes with your family can be so meaningful and helpful when the time comes. While it may be tempting to eliminate services to spare loved ones from pain, it's important to remember that grief is caused by the loss itself, not by the funeral. In fact, a personal and thoughtfully planned service can be a vital part of the healing process. When planning ahead, we encourage you to make choices that reflect your passions, values, and life story because a funeral should truly be a celebration of life.

Pay At Your Own Pace

If you choose to pay for your funeral in advance, we offer safe and secure options, including funeral trusts and insurance policies. Our funeral directors will guide you through the options that suit your needs. Your funeral plan is completely transferable, so if you move out of state, it can be transferred without penalty. If services are still planned in Massachusetts, we'll coordinate everything on your family's behalf.

Pre-planning can also play an important role for individuals preparing for long-term care, as Medicaid allows funds to be placed in an irrevocable trust or insurance policy designated specifically for future funeral expenses. This lawful option can help reduce assets while ensuring eligibility for needed care.

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Take Care to Share

Once your arrangements are complete, we recommend keeping a copy of your plan and paperwork in a safe place and sharing the information with a trusted friend or family member. We securely store all records in a secure system, because your privacy and peace of mind are always our priority.

While the concept of pre-planning may seem overwhelming at first, the act brings peace of mind today and comfort to your family tomorrow. It is a thoughtful gift to those you love and a meaningful way to ensure your wishes are honored. Every story. Any style. Always personal.

Our funeral directors are always available to answer questions and help you take the next step.

**SECURE ONLINE
PRE-PLANNING FORM**



www.keohane.com

