

The following is a suggested format for the unveiling service. Feel free to alter it any way to best serve your needs.

Unveiling of the Monument

1. Introduction and Welcome

_____died on _____.

(S)He was buried here at _____Cemetery on_____.

(S)He was beloved husband/wife of_____.

(S)He was the father/mother of_____.

(S)He was the brother/sister of_____.

(S)He was the mother/father-in-law of_____.

(S)He was the grandfather/grandmother of_____.

Today we gather to remember him/her and to dedicate a monument in his/her memory.

1. 2. Companions - inspired by the poetry of Russia

When we think of those companions who traveled by our side down life's road,
let us not say with sadness that they left us behind,
but rather say with gratitude
that they once were with us

2. 3. Hold On - from Many Winters - Nancy Woods

Hold on to what is good
even if it is
a handful of earth.
Hold on to what you believe
even if it is
a tree which stands by itself.

Hold on to what you must do
even if it is
a long way from here.
Hold on to life even when
it is easier letting go.
Hold on to my hand even when
I have gone away from you.

3. 4. To Everything There Is A Season - Ecclesiastes

To everything there is a season;
A time for everything under the sun.
A time to be born and a time to die,
A time to laugh and a time to mourn,
A time to seek and a time to lose.

This is a time we gather to remember
someone who gave meaning to our lives.
This is the time we recall
the bonds that hold us, the love we shared,
the memories that sustain us.

5. Alvin Fine

Birth is a beginning
And death a destination.
And life is a journey:
From childhood to maturity
And youth to age;
From innocence to awareness
And ignorance to knowing;
From foolishness to discretion
 And then perhaps to wisdom.
From weakness to strength
Or strength to weakness-
 And, often back again;
From health to sickness.
 And back., we pray, to health again;
From offense to forgiveness,
From loneliness to love,
From joy to gratitude,
From pain to compassion,
And grief to understanding-
 From fear to faith;

From defeat to defeat to defeat-
Until, looking backward or ahead,
We see that victory lies
Not at some high place along the way,
But in having made the journey, stage by
stage,
 A sacred pilgrimage.
Birth is a beginning
And death a destination.
But life is a journey,
A sacred pilgrimage-
 To life everlasting.

4. 6. We Are Loved By An Unending Love - Rabbi Rami Shapiro

We are loved by an unending love.
We are embraced by arms that find us even when we are hidden from ourselves.
We are touched by fingers that soothe us even when we are too proud for soothing.
We are counseled by voices that guide us even when we are too embittered to hear.
We are loved by an unending love.
We are supported by hands that uplift us even in the midst of a fall.

We are urged on by eyes that meet us even when we are too weak for meeting.
We are loved by an unending love.
Embraced, touched, soothed, and counseled,
Ours are the arms, the fingers, the voices;
Ours are the hands, the eyes, the smiles;
We are loved by an unending love.

5. 7. Knowing Love – Unknown

I will allow all things to come and go
To be a supple as the wind
and to take everything that comes with great courage
Life is right in any case
and my heart will remain as open as the sky...

6. 8. After a While - Author unknown

After a while, you learn the subtle difference
Between holding a hand and chaining a soul.
And you learn that love doesn't mean
leaning,
And that company doesn't always mean
security.
And you learn that kisses aren't contracts,
And presents aren't promises.

And you begin to accept your defeats
With your head up and your eyes straight
ahead,
With the grace of a woman or a man,
Not the grief of a child
And you learn to build all your roads on
today,
Because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain
for plans,
And futures have a way of falling down in
mid-flight.

After a while you learn that even sunshine
burns
If you ask too much.
So you plant your own garden and decorate
your own soul,
Instead of waiting for someone to bring you
flowers.

And you learn that you really can endure,
And that you really are strong,
And that you really have worth,

And you learn, and you learn...
With every goodbye, you learn

7. 9. There are Stars - Hannah Szenes

There are stars whose light reaches the earth
only after they themselves have disintegrated and are no more.

And there are people whose scintillating memory
lights the world after they have passed from it.

These lights which shine in the darkest night
are those which illumine for us the path.

8. 10. Prayer For Those Not With Us

As we stand here, full of pride and love,
our hearts and thoughts recall others who are not with us.
And yet, they are so much a part of us and our lives, that it is hard not to feel them present.
A child's gesture recalls that of a grandparent he never knew.
An act of kindness and generosity reminds us of the example of a much loved aunt or uncle.
The laugh of one recalls for us the joy of another.
A chain of memory and blood binds us one to the other
thru the years and thru the generations,
and now, with a full heart, we pause and remember and proudly add to that chain.

9. 11. Relatives at Beth Tfiloh Cemetery

We note that this cemetery, _____, is where _____'s relatives are buried. They include _____.

10. 12. Unveiling and Dedication

[Remove the cloth from the stone.] [Read from the stone's inscription

In memory of _____, we establish and consecrate this monument.
It is a token of our deep love and respect.
(S)He is remembered now, and forever, part of the good in each of us.
May his/her soul be bound up in the bonds of life.

11. 13. How do I Love Thee – Adapted from Elizabeth Barrett Browning

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight.
I love thee to the level of everyday's
Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight
I love the freely, as men strive for right;
I love thee purely as they turn from praise.
I love the with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with the breath, smiles, tears of all my life
And if God choose, I shall but love thee better after death

12. 14. Sharing of memories

13. 15. 23rd Psalm

God is my shepherd; I shall not want. You cradle me in green pastures; You lead me beside tranquil waters. You restore my soul; You guide me in the paths of righteousness.	Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, For you are with me; Your rod and your staff comfort me. Surely goodness and kindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of God, forever.
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14. 16. My Hereafter - Juniata De Long

<p>Do not come when I am dead To sit beside a low green mound, or bring the first gay daffodils Because I love them so For I shall not be there. You cannot find me there.</p> <p>I will look up at you from the eyes Of little children; I will bend to meet you in the swaying boughs Of bud-thrilled trees, And caress you with the passionate sweep Of storm-filled winds; I will give you strength in your upward tread Of everlasting hills; I will cool your tired body in the flow Of the limpid river; I will warm your work-glorified hands through the glow Of the winter fire;</p>	<p>I will soothe you into forgetfulness to the drop , drop</p> <p>Of the rain on the roof; I will speak to you out of the rhymes Of the masters; I will dance with you in the lilt Of the violin, And make your heart leap with the bursting cade nce</p> <p>Of the organ; I will flood your soul with the flaming radiance Of the sunrise, And bring you peace in the tender rose and go1d</p> <p>Of the after-sunset.</p> <p>All these have made me happy They are a part of me; I shall become a part of them.</p>
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15. 17. El Malei Rachamim – God Filled with Compassion

Let God remember the soul of Herman Ehudin
who went to his place of eternal rest.
Please let his soul be bound up with living in the continuum of life,
and may his rest be honorable.
Grant him abundant joy in your presence,
and sweet pleasures at your right hand for eternity. Amen.

God filled with mercy
dwelling in the heavens' heights,
grant perfect peace beneath the wings of your Shechinah,
amid the ranks of the holy and the pure,
illuminating like the brilliance of the skies
the souls of our beloved and our blameless
who went to their eternal place of rest.
May you who are the source of mercy
shelter them beneath your wings eternally,
and bind their souls among the living,
that they may rest in peace.
And let us say: Amen.

16. 18. We Remember Them -- Ronald Gittelsohn

At the rising of the sun and at its going down...

We remember them.

At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter...

We remember them.

At the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring...

We remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer...

We remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn...

We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends...

We remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart...

We remember them.

When we have joy we crave to share

We remember them.

When we have decisions that are difficult to make...

We remember them.

As long as we live, they too will live,

for they are now a part of us...

And we remember them.

17. 19. Mourner's Kaddish

Mourners: Yit-ga-dal ve-yit-ka-dash she-
mey ra-ba
Be-al-ma div-ra chir-u-tey
Ve-yam-lich mal-chu-tey
Be-cha-yey-chon uv-yo-me-chon uv-
cha-yey de-chol beyt yis-ra-el
Ba-a-ga-la u-viz-man ka-riv
ve-im-ru a-men.

Congregation: Ye-hey she-mey ra-ba me-
va-rach
le-a-lam ul-al-mey al-ma-ya.

Mourners: Yit-ba-rach ve-yish-ta-bach
ve-yit-pa-ar ve-yit-ro-mam
ve-yit-na-sey
Ve-yit-ha-dar ve-yit-a-leh ve-yit-ha-lal
she-mey de-kud-sha
Be-rich hu
Le-ela le-ela mi-kol bir-cha-ta

Mourners: Let God's name be made great and holy in the world that was created as God willed. May God complete the holy realm in your own lifetime, in your days, and in the days of all the house of Israel, quickly and soon. And say: Amen.

Congregation: May God's great name be blessed, forever and as long as worlds endure.

Mourners: May it be blessed, and praised, and glorified, and held in honor, viewed with awe, embellished, and revered; and may the blessed name of holiness be hailed, though it be higher by far than all the blessings,

ve-shi-ra-ta tush-be-cha-ta
ve-ne-che-ma-ta da-a-mi-ran
be-al-ma
ve-im-ru a-men.

Ye-hey she-la-ma ra-ba min
she-ma-ya
Ve-cha-yim a-ley-nu ve-al kol
yis-ra-el ve-im-ru a-men.

O-seh sha-lom bim-ro-mav
hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-ley-nu
ve-al kol yis-ra-el
ve-al kol yosh-vey tevel
ve-im-ru amen.

songs, praises, and consolations that
we utter in this world. And say: Amen.

May Heaven grant a universal peace,
and life for us, and for all Israel. And
say: Amen.

May the one who creates harmony
above, make peace for us and for all
Israel, and for all who dwell on earth.
And say: Amen