

PREPARATION for CEREMONY

Dress Code:

- White uniform (dress or scrubs)
- White nylons/socks, polished white shoes
- Nurses Cape-blue with red or gold lining
- Nursing Pins-display on right side of cape
- Jewelry limit to wedding rings, watches and stud earrings

PARTICIPANTS/TRAVEL

Those who can participate arrive ahead of service and change into uniform, cape.

PROCESSION

In order of speaking. Left side of cape to be left open over left shoulder. Nurses will be seated together as arranged in advance with the funeral home or church.

HONOR ARTICLES (if available)

Flag with red cross in the middle (if available)

Florence Nightingale Lamp carry with flame lit.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

If desired by the family: The work history of the nurse with dates of service, type of unit and stories known about the nurse or provided by the family.

The Nursing Pledge

(Ask all nurses in the audience to stand while the pledge is being read.)

- I solemnly pledge to practice my profession faithfully.
- I will not knowingly administer any harmful drug or treatment.
- I will do all in my power to elevate the standards of my profession
- I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping.
- I will honor each individual under my care with the knowledge that they are body, mind, and spirit beings.
- I will be an advocate and a healer.
- I will work to promote wellness in individuals, families, and communities.
- I commit myself to evidence based practice and the ongoing pursuit of knowledge.

The Nightingale Tribute

Nursing is a calling, a lifestyle, a way of living. Nurses here today honor NAME and her/his life as a nurse.

NAME will not be remembered by her/his years of service as a nurse, but by the difference she/he made during those

years by stepping into people's lives at special moments.

Offer condolences and words of comfort to Family members.

READING OF POEM

She Was There

When a calming, quiet presence was all that was needed,
She was there.
The excitement and miracle of birth or in the mystery and loss of life,
She was there.
When a silent glance could uplift a patient, family member or friend,
She was there.
At those times when the unexplainable needed to be explained,
She was there.
When the situation demanded a swift foot and sharp mind,
She was there.
When a gentle touch, a firm push, or an encouraging word was needed,
She was there.
To witness humanity – its beauty, in good times and bad, without judgment,
She was there.
To embrace the woes of the world, willingly, and offer hope,
She was there.
And now, that it is time to be at the Greater One's side,
She is there.

HONOR WITH PRESENTING FLOWER

NAME, we honor you this day and give you a flower to symbolize our honor and appreciation for being our colleague.

Then each nurse will place the flower on the casket or lay beside the urn.

Final call to duty

**Using triangle to tap each time before call
Use the nurses first name to call “report for duty”.**

“Nurse FIRST NAME, report for duty,”

Pause

“Nurse FIRST NAME, report for duty,”

Pause

“Nurse FIRST NAME, report for duty,”

Pause

“Nurse FIRST NAME, you are hereby relieved of your earthly duties,

“Rest in peace.”

CLOSING AND RECESSION

- Extinguish the light in the Florence Nightingale Lamp
- Beginning with the lead nurse, close the left side of their cape, one at a time.
- When all capes are closed present lamp to the family
- Recession of nurses back to their seats. Nurses will remain seated until the end of the service, then will file out in order and leave as a unit in the same order.
- Maintain the dignity and honor of the service by silencing cell phones or leave in changing room and be quiet with the service.

PALLBEARERS

If requested by the family, nurses can serve as pallbearers. If this is done, **LAST CALL** may be done at the graveside.

The ordered of the above presentations can be changed or arranged to meet the needs of the service.

Nurse Honor Guard members can stand guard at the head of casket or urn and change up every 15 minutes and then do a presentation before the service starts.