

Funeral Songs, Music & Poems



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### About Over50Choices

Launched in June 2013, Over50choices.co.uk is an online comparison site specialising in funeral planning and life insurance for the Over 50s. We offer a wide range of personal finance products and utility services. Quite simply we give you 'choices'!



Our objective is to present simple, easy to read information and guides that help you put plans in place and make more informed financial decisions.

We are Independent, meaning that we are not owned by any corporate companies and offer products and services we believe can help make a difference.

In addition to our range of insurance, energy and financial products, we focus significantly on funeral planning; a subject we believe is of great importance. We appreciate that although death is the one thing we all have in common; it is not a subject we like to talk about. But by talking about it and taking time to put plans in place, you really can make life that little bit easier for those you care about, both financially and emotionally.

Through our combined experience of over 50 years in financial services and more latterly life insurance and funeral plans for the over 50s, we can provide you with the widest funeral planning choices in the UK. Whether you want information on arranging a funeral, making a will or personalising a funeral service, or you want to compare and buy a funeral plan, we can help you with it all.

We are proud to say that we are authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) who regulate the financial services industry in the UK. This means that you can be sure we comply with their rules and guidance and that our customers are treated fairly. As an authorised company, we can not recommend or give advice on specific products but we can provide information to guide you through your options and help you make the right decision for you.

If you are looking for more guidance about specific products, some of our partners such as Family Insurance Services are authorised to give advice and are on hand to help. We will make it clear on our website where this service is available.

**Visit: [www.over50choices.co.uk](http://www.over50choices.co.uk)**

# Funeral Songs, Music & Poems

For most of us, music plays such an important part of our lives. The changing trend in funeral music from funeral hymns to more contemporary songs is a good example of this. Whether it's a tear-jerker, rock anthem, upbeat or quirky song, demand for this type of funeral music is increasing.

In this section you will find the results of a recent survey conducted by The Co-operative Funeralcare showing some of the most popular pieces of funeral songs and funeral music. This includes:

- Top 10 Funeral Hymns
- Top 10 Funeral Songs
- Top 10 Classical Funeral Music

We have also listed some more unusual funeral songs for those who prefer something a little different and if you are looking for Funeral Poems or need help on writing a Eulogy, you've come to the right place.

Our funeral poems section below will give you some beautiful and very touching ideas if you are looking for that perfect funeral poem and we have some helpful advice for those planning on writing a eulogy.

### Top 10 Funeral Hymns

1. Abide With Me
2. The Lord is My Shepherd
3. All Things Bright and Beautiful
4. Old Rugged Cross
5. How Great Thou Art
6. Amazing Grace
7. Jerusalem
8. Morning has Broken
9. The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended
10. Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace

### Top 10 Funeral Songs

1. My Way - Frank Sinatra / Shirley Bassey
2. Time to Say Goodbye - Sarah Brightman and Andrea Bocelli
3. Wind Beneath My Wings - Bette Midler
4. Over the Rainbow - Eva Cassidy
5. Angels - Robbie Williams
6. You Raise Me Up - Westlife / Boyzone / Josh Grobin
7. You'll Never Walk Alone - Gerry and the Pacemakers
8. We'll Meet Again - Vera Lynn
9. My Heart Will Go - On Celine Dion
10. Unforgettable - Nat King Cole

### Top 10 Classical Funeral Music

1. Nimrod from Enigma Variations - Elgar
2. Canon in D - Pachelbel
3. Ave Maria - Schubert
4. Nessun Dorma - Puccini
5. Pie Jesu from Requiem - Faure
6. The Four Seasons - Vivaldi
7. Adagio - Albinoni / Bizet
8. Air on a G String - Bach
9. Largo from Xerxes - Handel
10. Clare de Lune - Debussy

### Unusual Funeral Songs

If you fancy something a little different, you could go for one of the following more unusual choices:

- Always Look on the Bright Side of Life Eric Idle
- Ying Tong Song Spike Milligan
- Bat Out of Hell Meatloaf
- Spirit in the Sky Doctor and the Medics
- Clock from Countdown TV Theme
- Match of the Day TV Theme
- One Foot in the Grave TV Theme
- Last of the Summer Wine TV Theme
- Dr Who TV Theme
- Top Gear TV Theme
- The X Files TV Theme
- Red Dwarf TV Theme
- Six Feet Under TV Theme
- The Muppets 'It's Time to Face the Music' TV Theme

# Funeral Poems

If you are looking for poems for a funeral, you don't necessarily have to choose funeral poems as there are many everyday poems and readings that are full of sentiment and purpose that would be suitable.

For example you could decide on a reading that meant something to the person who has died or perhaps you might want to write a Eulogy. Here are just a few of our favourite funerals poems:

### 'Do not stand at my grave and weep' by Mary Frye

Do not stand at my grave and weep;  
I am not there. I do not sleep.  
I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glints on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,  
I am the gentle autumn rain.  
When you awaken in the morning's hush,  
I am the swift uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circled flight.  
I am the soft stars that shine at night.  
Do not stand at my grave and cry;  
I am not there, I did not die.

### 'If i should go tomorrow' - Author Unknown

If I should go tomorrow  
It would never be goodbye,  
For I have left my heart with you,  
So don't you ever cry.  
The love that's deep within me,  
Shall reach you from the stars,  
You'll feel it from the heavens,  
And it will heal the scars.

### 'When God saw you getting tired' - Author Unknown

When God saw you getting tired  
And a cure was not to be  
He put his arms around you  
And whispered come to me  
He didn't like what you went through  
And he gave you rest  
His garden must be beautiful  
He only takes the best  
And when we saw you sleeping  
So peaceful and free from pain  
We wouldn't wish you back

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To suffer that again  
Today we say goodbye  
And as you take your final rest  
That garden must be beautiful  
Because you are one of the best.

### 'Stop all the clocks' - by WH Auden

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,  
Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,  
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum  
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.  
Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead  
Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,  
Put crepe bows round the white necks of the public doves,  
Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton gloves.  
He was my North, my South, my East and West,  
My working week and my Sunday rest,  
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;  
I thought that love would last for ever: I was wrong.  
The stars are not wanted now: put out every one;  
Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;  
Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.  
For nothing now can ever come to any good.

### 'Life goes on' by Joyce Grenfell

If I should go before the rest of you  
Break not a flower  
Nor inscribe a stone  
Nor when I am gone  
Speak in a Sunday voice  
But be the usual selves  
That I have known  
Weep if you must  
Parting is hell  
But life goes on  
So.... sing as well

### 'Death is nothing at all' by Canon Henry Scott-Holland

Death is nothing at all  
I have only slipped away into the next room  
I am I and you are you  
Whatever we were to each other  
That we are still  
Call me by my old familiar name  
Speak to me in the easy way you always used  
Put no difference into your tone  
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow  
Laugh as we always laughed  
At the little jokes we always enjoyed together

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Play, smile, think of me, pray for me  
Let my name be ever the household word that it always was  
Let it be spoken without effort  
Without the ghost of a shadow in it  
Life means all that it ever meant  
It is the same as it ever was  
There is absolute unbroken continuity  
What is death but a negligible accident?  
Why should I be out of mind  
Because I am out of sight?  
I am waiting for you for an interval  
Somewhere very near  
Just around the corner  
All is well.  
Nothing is past; nothing is lost  
One brief moment and all will be as it was before  
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when we meet again!

### 'She is Gone(He is gone)' by David Harkins

You can shed tears that she is gone  
Or you can smile because she has lived  
You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back  
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left  
Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
Or you can be full of the love that you shared  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday  
You can remember her and only that she is gone  
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on  
You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back  
Or you can do what she would want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on

### 'Remember me' by David Harkins

Do not shed tears when I have gone but smile instead because I have lived.  
Do not shut your eyes and pray to God that I'll come back but open your eyes  
and see all that I have left behind.  
I know your heart will be empty because you cannot see me but still I want  
you to be full of the love we shared.  
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live only for yesterday or you can be  
happy for tomorrow because of what happened between us yesterday.  
You can remember me and grieve that I have gone or you can cherish my  
memory and let it live on.  
You can cry and lose yourself, become distraught and turn your back on the  
world or you can do what I want - smile, wipe away the tears, learn to love

### 'Today is a Gift' by Laszlo-Kosztandi

Many people will walk in and out of your life,  
But only true friends will leave footprints in your heart  
To handle yourself, use your head;

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To handle others, use your heart.  
Anger is only one letter short of danger.  
If someone betrays you twice, it is your fault  
Great minds discuss events;  
Small minds discuss people.  
He who loses money, loses much;  
He who loses a friend, loses much more;  
He who loses faith, loses all.  
Beautiful old people are works of art.  
Learn from the mistakes of others  
You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.  
Friends, you and me ... You brought another friend ... and we started our  
group ... our circle of friends ... and like a circle ... there is no beginning or end  
...  
Yesterday is history.  
Tomorrow is mystery.  
Today is a gift.

### 'Let us be contented' by Winston Churchill

Let us be contented with what has happened and be thankful for all that we  
have been spared.  
Let us accept the natural order of things in which we move.  
Let us reconcile ourselves to the mysterious rhythm of our destinies, such as  
they must be in this world of space and time.  
Let us treasure our joys but not bewail our sorrows.  
The glory of light cannot exist without its shadows.  
Life is a whole, and good and ill must be accepted together.  
The journey has been enjoyable and well worth making-----once

### Writing a Eulogy

A Eulogy is a funeral speech written in honour of a person who has died to help celebrate their life with others and say goodbye.

It may contain a condensed life history about the person, favourite memories, funny anecdotes that friends and family can identify with, interesting facts about their life that people may not know; their hobbies, family, career, and achievements. You may also want to include a poem or reading. (take a look at Funeral Poems if you are looking for ideas on poetry for a funeral.)

If you are pondering over how to write a eulogy, a good starting point is to get suggestions from other people; how will they remember the person who has died; do they have any stories that really paint a picture of the person and why they will be missed.

Also think about who will read the eulogy. Being such an emotional time, reading a eulogy could prove quite difficult so it may be worth having someone there that can take over, just in case.

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# Not all funeral plans are the same

NEW 2017 PRICES  
SAVE UP TO £361  
IF YOU BUY A  
PREPAID FUNERAL  
PLAN THROUGH  
OVER50CHOICES\*

## Choose your provider wisely, choose Dignity

When it comes to choosing a funeral plan provider, you want one that you can trust. One with proven experience and expertise. A provider that you can be sure will be there for your loved ones and guide them through a difficult time, leaving them free to celebrate your life.

Over50Choices has partnered with Dignity, one of the UK's leading funeral plan providers, who have already helped more than 740,000 people arrange their funeral in advance. That's more than any other provider in the UK today.

There are a number of providers out there at the moment and it can be hard to spot the differences between them.



### Why we've chosen Dignity to be our preferred provider

Dignity is the first company in the UK to be awarded the BSI Kitemark for Customer Service and Complaint Management. This is a huge achievement which only reflects what we already know about their Client Service Centre being one of the best in the UK. This is also reflected in their customer survey results which shows more than 99pc of families served said that Dignity had met or exceeded their expectations and 98pc would recommend them to their friends and relatives<sup>1</sup>.

### Get more with Dignity

What sets Dignity apart from other funeral plan providers is the support it offers you and your loved ones every step of the way. From the day you enquire about a funeral plan, to the moment your loved ones need to talk to one of its 1,200 owned or approved funeral directors, you'll always be treated with care and compassion.

So if you choose Dignity as your funeral plan provider, you know you're in good hands. Dignity is also a member of the Funeral Planning Authority – the professional body that oversees the operation of registered funeral plan companies.

Dignity always strive to set the highest standards for the funeral profession in terms of client service and care. Many of their funeral directors have been working in their local communities for generations and they monitor each one to ensure its client service, premises and vehicles are of the highest standard.

### A little planning now can make things easier

It is a worrying fact that 99pc of people admit to not knowing their loved ones' funeral wishes<sup>†</sup>. On average loved ones have to contribute £2,449 to the cost of a funeral, with 50pc having to borrow money to cover these costs<sup>†</sup>.

By planning ahead and sharing your wishes, you can help to ease the worry and financial stress that comes with making funeral arrangements for your loved ones.

Dignity plans begin from as little as 83p per day\* and can help save your loved ones a lot of heartache and money at a distressing time.

## Special offer

As well as benefiting from a saving of £286<sup>^</sup> on the Prepaid Funeral Plan, Over50Choices customers also benefit from a further £75 cashback; a total saving of £361 if you buy a Prepaid Funeral Plan through Over50Choices.