



KAPPA ALPHA THETA

# Funeral or Memorial Service

Written in 1993 by Suzanne Luton Woodruff, Seattle Alumnae Chapter.

Revised in 2016 by Amy Hayner Kates, Fraternity Ritualist.

THIS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO THE FAMILIES OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF KAPPA ALPHA THETA. SHOULD THE FAMILY SO DESIRE, IT CAN BE INCORPORATED BY AN OFFICIANT OF THE FUNERAL OR MEMORIAL SERVICE. A FAMILY MEMBER OF THE DECEASED OR A THETA SISTER CAN ALSO LEAD IT.

*A candle may be lit to begin the service, if circumstances permit.*

\_\_\_\_\_ was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, a fraternity of women devoted to the pursuit of ideals. The Fraternity's principles are timeless: intellectually, the highest scholarship; socially, the widest influence for good; and the moral code is love. Membership in Kappa Alpha Theta is for a lifetime, and today we celebrate the life of \_\_\_\_\_.

In becoming a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, \_\_\_\_\_ pledged to live as a nobler woman, a woman who is loyal to her Fraternity and to its ideals. The hope for every Theta is that as she walks through life, the vows she takes will forever be a light to her path.

Throughout life and even in death, Theta loyalty strengthens; Theta love enfolds.

We, along with her other Theta sisters, are grateful for her friendship and her dedication to the Fraternity. We grieve for the moment, but we are comforted in knowing that she will never, ever be forgotten.

*At this time, friends may share special memories of the deceased.*

*The following excerpt from Robert Browning's "The Flight of the Duchess" has special meaning to Thetas. It may read at any time during the service.*

Be sure thy daily life  
In its peace or in its strife,  
Never shall be unobserved;  
We pursue thy whole career,  
And hope for it, or doubt, or fear, —  
Lo, has thou kept thy path or swerved,  
We are beside thee in all thy ways,  
With our blame, with our praise,  
Our shame to feel, our pride to show,  
Glad, angry—but indifferent, no!  
Henceforth be loved as heart can love,  
Or brain devise, or hand approve!

*Note: A reading of I Corinthians 13 may be read to conclude the service, or if the member was known to have a favorite spiritual passage or poem, that could be used instead.*