

The Boy Scouts of America

Memorial Service Guide

By Frank Perman



Robert and Olave Baden-Powell grave in Kenya features the “Gone Home” symbol

This memorial guide is dedicated to Sean, Emma and Jeff. Scouts who allowed me to share the experience of Scouting. To Heather, for permission to go.

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Acknowledgements

This guide is possible because of a number of people I call family, friends, colleagues, mentors and Scouters.

Denny Haramic

Denny led the horse to water. I’m glad I drank. This Memorial Guide was his idea. Thanks, bud!

Jeff Nix

When he was 12, Jeff asked to join Boy Scouts. He asked me to register as an adult leader. He is now an Eagle Scout. If it wasn’t for him…

Art West

Art asked me to join District Committee as Vice-Chairman of Membership. He said it would be an hour a week. He lied. I am grateful you opened the door for me to see the bigger picture of Scouting.

Russell Smart

I met Russell on the first day of Wood Badge BSA-20-1. We discussed two ideas I had for the Wood Badge Ticket. He very plainly said to write the Memorial Guide. Sage advice from a great Scouter. Russell, thank you.

Miguel Montes

Miguel became my spirit animal. His excitement about this project continues to play in my mind. Meeting him at WB BSA-20-1 was my highlight. His gentle reminders to finish this project were always well timed and inspirational. I am forever grateful, amigo.

Evan Morrison

Evan, the Blue Troop Eagle Patrol Guide helped me focus the scope of the Memorial Guide. I was well guided. Thank you.

WB BSA-20-1 Eagle Patrol

Your support, friendship, guidance and a little boot in the behind was appreciated. I am proud to say, “I used to be an Eagle! Rah, rah, rah!”

BSA

Thank you for hosting Wood Badge BSA-20-1 at Summit Reservation. It was life changing. The people are top notch. To be part of such an august group of dedicated Scout women and men was humbling.

Heather Perman

She simply said, “Go.” I love you. Thank you.

Thoughts

The Boy Scouts of America is a non-sectarian organization. This does not however preclude those wishing to honor someone who has died from acknowledgement of that person’s religion. Recognition is not evangelization.

Some Scouts and Scouters are not familiar with funeral traditions outside of their own religious faith. Many Scouts and Scouters have not previously attended a funeral viewing or visitation at a funeral home. Many have not attended funeral services at a place of worship or cemetery. That inexperience does not prevent Scouts and Scouters from participating in showing honor to the deceased as well as the deceased’s family and friends.

The best way to achieve proper respect and honor is through communication. Please communicate with the family that is dealing with the death what your unit would like to do to honor the person who died. Most importantly, ask for permission from the family to participate. Ask about religious traditions. Talk to the funeral director and clergy. Ask everyone involved their thoughts and options. Plan. Remember the who, what, where, when, why and how. Prepare in advance. Represent the deceased, yourself, your unit and council appropriately.

Use this guide with compassion, honor and respect. This is a basic guide. In the interest of brevity, the BSA Funeral Memorial Guide does not try to represent all religions. When in doubt, ask for information. Ask members of different religious faiths how we can be of service and what is respectful. Ask the following: What is expected? What is appropriate? What cannot be done? Families and clergy will be helpful and appreciate the respect shown.

Please communicate with all in the unit, that someone has died. Use the Unit Charter for names, addresses and phone numbers of Scouts, Scout families and Scouters. Do not force anyone from the unit to participate.

Thank the family for being able to participate. Remember the Scout Oath and Scout Law. They are always a good guide.

Represent!

**Order of Service at Funeral Home**

This is a suggested order of service. The Service should be between five to seven minutes.

1. Processional
   * Senior Patrol Leader or **Presider** calls for Color Guard. “Color Guard Advance. Color Guard post the colors.”
   * Color Guard advances in US flag and troop flag. If there are flag base stands, post the colors. If there are no flag post stands, the Color Guard will hold the flags throughout the ceremony. US flag at the head of the casket (the end where the deceased’s head lies), Unit flag at the foot of the casket (the end where the deceased’s feet lie).
   * Scouts and Scouters in uniform follow and gather.
2. Introduction-**Presider** should identify themself, their Position in your Unit(s), District and/or Council. Explain how you know the deceased.
3. Opening Prayer-**Presider** “Great Scoutmaster of All Scouts, as we grieve the loss of (*name of deceased*), help us to remember his/her involvement with Scouting. Show us how he/she lived the Scout Oath and Scout Law. We ask that you comfort (*name of deceased*)’s family and us as we will miss his/her friendship and fellowship.”
4. Recite Scout Oath and Law-**Presider**: “Scout Sign…The Scout Oath…The Scout Law…and Two
5. Robert Baden Powell Farewell Address- **Presider** (Page 5) *Optional*
6. Presider Comments-**Presider** (Highlights of the deceased’s life and Scouting accomplishments)
7. Song: “[***On My Honor***](http://www.scoutsongs.com/lyrics/onmyhonor.html)“ or other appropriate song. (Pages 6-7)
8. Reading- **Presider** (Pages 8-15)
9. Comments from friends.
10. Song: “[***Scout Vespers***](http://usscouts.org/songs/sv.asp)“ or other appropriate song. (Pages 6-7)
11. Scout Law Prayer (Page 16)
12. Closing Benediction- **Presider** “May the Great Scoutmaster of all Scouts be with us until we meet again, and may our footsteps lead unto Him.”
13. **Presider**: “Scout salute” Song: “***Taps***”
14. **Presider**: “Color Guard Advance. Color Guard, retire the Colors”
15. Recessional Each Scout and Scouter parades past the casket. Salute the deceased.

**Robert Baden Powell’s Farewell Address**

Dear Scouts,

If you have ever seen the play 'Peter Pan' you will remember how the pirate chief was always making his dying speech because he was afraid that possible, when the time came for him to die, he might not have time to get it off his chest. It is much the same with me, and so, although I am not at this moment dying, I shall be doing so one of these days and I want to send you a parting word of goodbye.  
  
Remember, it is the last time you will ever hear from me, so think it over. I have had a most happy life and I want each one of you to have a happy life too.  
  
I believe that God put us in this jolly world to be happy and enjoy life. Happiness does not come from being rich, nor merely being successful in your career, nor by self-indulgence. One step towards happiness is to make yourself healthy and strong while you are a boy, so that you can be useful and so you can enjoy life when you are a man.  
  
Nature study will show you how full of beautiful and wonderful things God has made the world for you to enjoy. Be contented with what you have got and make the best of it. Look on the bright side of things instead of the gloomy one.  
  
But the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn comes to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best. 'Be Prepared' in this way, to live happy and to die happy - stick to your Scout Promise always - even after you have ceased to be a boy - and God help you to do it.  
  
Your friend,  
Baden-Powell

**Songs**

***On My Honor***

On my honor, I'll do my best, to do my duty to God.

On my honor, I'll do my best, to serve my country as I may.

On my honor, I'll do my best, to do my good turn each day,

To keep my body strengthened and keep my mind awakened.

To follow paths of righteousness.

On my honor, I'll do my best.

***Scout Vespers (to the tune of Oh, Christmas Tree/Oh, Tannenbaum)***

Softly falls the light of day,

As our campfire fades away.

Silently each Scout should ask,

"Have I done my daily task?

Have I kept my honor bright?

Can I guiltless sleep tonight?

Have I done and have I dared,

Everything to Be Prepared?"

Listen Lord, oh listen Lord,

As I whisper soft and low.

Bless my mom and bless my dad,

These are things that they should know.

I will keep my honor bright,

The Oath and Law will be my guide.

And Mom and Dad this you should know,

Deep in my heart I love you so.

***America the Beautiful***

Oh, beautiful for spacious skies  
For amber waves of grain  
For purple mountain majesty  
Above the fruited plain

America, America  
God shed his grace on thee  
And crown thy good with brotherhood  
From sea to shining sea  
From sea to shining sea

***Battle Hymn of the Republic***

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword  
His truth is marching on, His truth is marching

Glory, glory, Hallelujah! Glory, glory, Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, Hallelujah! His truth is marching on

***When The Saints Go Marching In***

Oh, when the saints go marching in

Oh, when the saints go marching in

Dear Lord, I want to be in that number

When the saints go marching in

Oh, when the sun refuse to shine

Oh, when the sun refuse to shine

Dear Lord I want to be in that number

When the sun refuse to shine

Oh when they crown Him Lord of all

Oh when they crown Him Lord of all

Dear Lord, I want to be in that number

When they crown Him Lord of all

Oh, when they gather 'round the throne

Oh, when they gather 'round the throne

Dear Lord, I want to be in that number

When they gather 'round the throne

**Christian Prayers**

***Thanksgiving for the Life of the Deceased***

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us all with the gift of this earthly life  
and has given to our brother/sister [deceased’s name]  
his/her span of years and gifts of character.  
God our Father, we thank you now for all his/her life,  
for every memory of love and joy,  
for every good deed done by him/her  
and every sorrow shared with us.  
We thank you for his/her life and for his/her death,  
we thank you for the rest in Christ he/she now enjoys,  
we thank you for giving him/her to us,  
we thank you for the glory we shall share together.  
Hear our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***Prayer for a Sudden Death***

God of hope,  
we come to you in shock and grief and confusion of heart.  
Help us to find peace in the knowledge  
of your loving mercy to all your children,  
and give us light to guide us out of our darkness  
into the assurance of your love,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***Funeral Prayer***

God our Father,  
Your power brings us to birth,  
Your providence guides our lives,  
and by Your command we return to dust.  
Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,  
their lives change but do not end.  
I pray in hope for (deceased’s name) family,  
relatives and friends,  
and for all the dead known to You alone.  
In company with Christ,  
Who died and now lives,  
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,  
where all our tears are wiped away.  
Unite us together again in one family,  
to sing Your praise forever and ever.  
Amen.

***The 23rd Psalm***

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul;  
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***Prayer for the Family***

O God, you do not willingly grieve or afflict your children.  
Look with pity on the suffering of (deceased’s name) family in their loss.  
Sustain them in their anguish;  
and into the darkness of their grief  
bring the light of your love;  
through Jesus we pray.  
  
Amen.

***Funeral Prayer***

God our Father,  
we thank you that you have made each of us  
in your own image,  
and given us gifts and talents with which to serve you.  
We thank you for [deceased’s name],  
the years we shared with him/her,  
the good we saw in him/her,  
the love we received from him/her.  
Now give us strength and courage  
to leave him/her in your care,  
confident in your promise of eternal life  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***An Indian Prayer***

Creator of life and light,  
We praise thee this day for the beauty of thy world,  
for sunshine and flowers,  
storm-cloud and starry night,  
for the radiance of dawn and the last smoldering calm of the sunset.

We thank thee for physical joys,  
for the ecstasy of swift motion, for deep water to swim in,  
For the goodly smell of rain on dry ground,  
for hills to climb and hard work to do,  
for all the skill of hand and eye,  
for music that lifts our hearts in one breath to heaven,  
for the grasp of a friend,  
for the gracious loveliness of children,

for all these thy sacraments of beauty and joy,  
we thank thee our Lord and God.

**Jewish Prayers**

***Mourner’s Kaddish in English Translation***

Glorified and sanctified be His great name throughout the world  
which He has created according to His will.

May He establish His kingdom in your lifetime and during your days,  
and within the life of the entire House of Israel, speedily and soon;  
and say, Amen.

May His great name be blessed forever and to all eternity.

Blessed and praised, glorified and exalted, extolled and honored,  
adored and lauded be the name of the Holy One, blessed be He,  
beyond all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations that  
are ever spoken in the world; and say, Amen.

May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us  
and for all Israel; and say, Amen.

He who creates peace in His celestial heights,  
may He create peace for us and for all Israel;  
and say, Amen.

***El Maleh Rahamim*** *A prayer of remembrance*

**On behalf of a man**

God, full of mercy, who dwells in the heights, provide a sure rest upon the Divine Presence's wings, within the range of the holy, pure and glorious, whose shining resemble the sky's, to the soul of (Hebrew name of deceased) son of (Hebrew name of his father) for a charity was given to the memory of his soul. Therefore, the Master of Mercy will protect him forever, from behind the hiding of his wings, and will tie his soul with the rope of life. The Everlasting is his heritage, and he shall rest peacefully upon his lying place, and let us say: Amen.

**On behalf of a woman**

God, full of mercy, Who dwells above, give rest on the wings of the Divine Presence , amongst the holy, pure and glorious who shine like the sky, to the soul of (Hebrew name of deceased) daughter of (Hebrew name of her father), for whom prayer was offered in the memory of her soul. Therefore, the Merciful One will protect her soul forever, and will merge her soul with eternal life. The Everlasting is her heritage, and she shall rest peacefully at her lying place, and let us say: Amen.

***Psalm 121***

*A song of ascents.*

**1**I lift up my eyes to the mountains—  
    where does my help come from?  
**2**My help comes from the Lord,  
    the Maker of heaven and earth.

**3**He will not let your foot slip—  
    he who watches over you will not slumber;  
**4**indeed, he who watches over Israel  
    will neither slumber nor sleep.

**5**The Lord watches over you—  
    the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
**6**the sun will not harm you by day,  
    nor the moon by night.

**7**The Lord will keep you from all harm—  
    he will watch over your life;  
**8**the Lord will watch over your coming and going  
    both now and forevermore.

[***When All That’s Left Is Love - Rabbi Allen S. Maller***](https://acupofpoetry.tumblr.com/post/111215039028/when-all-thats-left-is-love-by-rabbi-allen-s)

When I die  
If you need to weep  
Cry for someone    
Walking the street beside you.  
You can love me most by letting  
Hands touch hands, and  
Souls touch souls.  
You can love me most by  
Sharing your Simchas (goodness) and  
Multiplying your Mitzvot (acts of kindness).  
You can love me most by  
Letting me live in your eyes  
And not on your mind.  
And when you say Kaddish for me  
Remember what our  
Torah teaches,  
Love doesn’t die: people do.  
So when all that’s left of me is love  
Give me away.

**Other Prayers**

***Muslim Prayer***

O Allah, forgive our living and our dead, those present and those absent, our young and our old, our males and our females. O Allah, whom among us You keep alive, then let such a life be upon Islam, and whom among us You take unto Yourself, then let such a death be upon faith. O Allah, do not deprive us of his reward and do not let us stray after him.

***Hindu Prayer***

Burn him/her not up, nor quite consume him/her, Agni: let not his/her body or his/her skin be scattered,  
O all possessing Fire, when thou hast matured him/her, then send him/her on his/her way unto the Fathers.  
When thou hast made him/her ready, all possessing Fire, then do thou give him/her over to the Fathers,  
When he/she attains unto the life that waits him/her, he/she shall become subject to the will of gods.  
The Sun receive thine eye, the Wind thy *Prana* (life-principle, breath); go, as thy merit is, to earth or heaven.  
Go, if it be thy lot, unto the waters; go, make thine home in plants with all thy members.

***Buddhist prayer***

May all be free from sorrow, and the causes of sorrow,

May all never be separated from the sacred happiness which is sorrowless

**Poems**

***When I Must Leave - Helen Steiner Rice***

When I must leave you  
for a little while,  
Please do not grieve  
and shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow  
to you through the years, But start out bravely  
with a gallant smile;  
And for my sake  
and in my name  
Live on and do  
all the things the same, Feed not your loneliness  
on empty days,  
But fill each waking hour  
in useful ways,  
Reach out our hand  
in comfort and in cheer  
And I in turn will comfort you  
and hold you near;  
And never, never,  
be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting  
for you in the sky!

***I’m Free - Unknown***

Don’t grieve for me, now I’m free  
I’m following the path God laid for me,  
I took his hand when I heard him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at close of day.

If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy,  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow.  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life’s been full, I’ve savoured much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one’s touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don’t lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your hearts and share with me,  
God wanted me now; He set me free.

***Do Not Stand At My Grave And Weep – 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 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.

**Scout Law Prayer**

Bless [Name of Deceased], who contributed to shape the hearts,   
minds and bodies of young people. Let us remember what [Name of Deceased] taught and apply it daily.

* When we face deceit and dishonesty, let us be Trustworthy.
* When we see hypocrisy and faithlessness, let us be Loyal.
* Where disregard of others and mere materialism prevail,

let us be Helpful.

* When we find people in despair, let us be Friendly.
* In an atmosphere of ill manner, let us be' Courteous,
* Where we see brutality and crudeness, let us be Kind.
* Where lawbreaking and flouting rules are common, let us   
  be Obedient.
* While others grumble and grouch, let us be Cheerful.
* In an environment blighted by waste and extravagance, let   
  us be Thrifty.
* When we confront danger and temptation, let us be Brave.
* Where we see filth and pollution, let us be Clean.
* When we witness impiety, let us be Reverent.

Through [Name of Deceased]’s good example, let us, as Scouts, lead our lives by living the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Amen.

**BSA Memorial Life Form**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Partner’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Scouting Position\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Unit Type and #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_District Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Council Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Scouting Registration #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What Are You Most Proud of In Your Scouter Career?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Why?** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Unit Level Roles**

Position Unit # District Council Dates From-To Total Years

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**District Level Roles**

Position Unit # District Council Dates From-To Total Years

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**Council/National Level Roles**

Position Unit # District Council Dates From-To Total Years

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**Training Courses** Participant Staff/Faculty Year(s)

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**Scouting Recognition/Awards** Year Awarded

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**Scout History**

Unit Number Year From-To

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Best Scout Experience(s)**

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**How You Best Lived Up To The Scout Oath and Law**

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**Service to Youth Outside of Scouting**

Organization Position/Recognition Year(s)

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**Other Community Organizations-Religious, Civic, Educational, Fraternal, Business, Professional, Military, and other non-Scouting areas**

Organization Positions Held Years Served Accomplishments

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Order of the Arrow**

Broken Arrow Ceremony Yes/No Lodge # Contact Name and Phone

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**What I’d Like To Be Remembered For**

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**Who I Would Want to Speak for Me and My Scouting History**

Name Phone Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ORDER OF THE ARROW BROKEN ARROW CEREMONY**

This ceremony is a final tribute to a deceased OA Member who has served cheerfully to help others, and who, in their daily life, has lived the Scout Oath and Scout Law. It is performed at the wake with the consent of the deceased's family. It is proper that either preceding or after the ceremony the Lodge Advisor and/or Lodge Chief, **Allowat Sakima** and **Meteu** offer proper condolences to the family.

*SETTING: All available OA Members should be in full uniform with their OA sash.* ***Allowat Sakima*** *and* ***Meteu*** *are in full uniform (or costume if desired by the family), sash, and appropriate headdress. The OA Members file into the parlor forming two equal lines extending from each end of the casket. One line is led by* ***Allowat Sakima****.* ***Meteu*** *leads the other line. Once in position, the OA Members turn, cross arms right over left, and join hands with the OA Member next to them. An arrow is carried by the second OA Member in* ***Meteu's*** *line. Upon turning, the arrow is held on the ends by the first and second OA Member in that line, leaving a space bridged by the arrow. to indicate the Spirit of the departed OA Member.* ***Allowat Sakima*** *and* ***Meteu*** *move to a position about three feet in front of, and to either side of the casket, and face the mourners.*

**METEU**: We are members of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lodge #\_\_\_\_, Order of the Arrow. The Order of the Arrow is a society of members of the Boy Scouts of America who have been recognized by their fellow

Scouts for their outstanding devotion to the high ideals of the Scout Oath and Law. Its foundation is

brotherhood in cheerful service, modeled after the Delaware Indian tribe. We have come to pay our

final tribute to our departed Brother/Sister. **Allowat Sakima**, Chief of the Fire, will now relate a brief Scouting history of our Brother/Sister.

*(Turn to* ***Allowat Sakima****)*

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA**: (Gives a brief Scouting history of the departed Brother/Sister, emphasizing their contributions of the Order)

*(Turns to* ***Meteu****)*

**METEU**: Peace, my Brothers and Sisters of the Arrow. Of this Lodge and humble tribe, bear with me this obligation to our Brother/Sister gone before us. On the trail of fulfillment, He/She who camped and served among us, He/She who always stood beside us, now has left His/Her earthly trail for the trail of His/Her Maker. Let us, in our hearts and minds, remember He/She who was our Brother/Sister on the earth. Forever in spirit, Brother/Sister [Deceased OA Member's Name] will be among us.

*(****Meteu*** *gets arrow from the Brothers and Sisters in their line. These Brothers and Sisters WILL NOT join hands when the arrow is taken by* ***Meteu****. The space in the line also remains.* ***Meteu*** *takes the arrow with both hands and give it to* ***Allowat Sakima****, who takes it with both hands)*

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA**: As a symbol of our Order, the arrow has been fitly chosen. It must be straight, its

point keen. Aimed high, its course is undeviating, its direction onward and upward. It, therefore, has

been chosen as a symbol of leadership. The breaking of this arrow *(breaks arrow)* is symbolic of the

end of strife and the beginning of peace.

*(Place arrow on casket or give to the widow or a family member. It is appropriate for* ***Allowat Sakima*** *to kneel before the widow/family member and offer the arrow in both open hands above his/her bowed head.* ***Meteu*** *can place the proper sash over the open casket lid, across the foot of the casket, or give a partially folded sash to the widow/family member)*

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA**: Brother/Sister **Meteu** will help us strengthen our spirits.

**METEU**: Oh, Great Master, Hear us in our thoughts this evening,

In our final tribute to our Brother/Sister [Deceased OA Member's Name].

He/She who loved the haunts of nature,

Loved the moonlight on the water,

Loved the sunshine on the meadow,

Loved the shadow of the forest,

Loved the wind among the pine trees,

Loved the rushing of great rivers,

Loved the thunder of the mountains,

Loved all of nature in its splendor.

Found in nature his/her duty to Mankind

And pledged him/herself to cheerful service

Serving his/her Brothers and Sisters and fellow mankind.

Rest, Brother/Sister [Deceased OA Member's Name], we've known you well indeed

And now in peace, you will sleep.

You have done your work, and done it well.

So, none of us need weep.

In Scouting, we will miss your smile

And your friendly handclasp,

But your Master will guide your steps

And point the way for you.

*(Pause for an appropriate length of time)*

**ALLOWAT SAKIMA**: So, may it be.

*(****Allowat Sakima*** *then leads his/her line of Brothers and Sisters past the casket and out of the parlor.* ***Meteu*** *then follows by leading his/her line past the casket and out of the parlor.)*

About

I never expected to be a Scouter, never expected to become a trained leader, never expected to be a Committee Chair, never expected to be a Charter Organization Representative, never expected to teach the Youth Protection Training class, never expected to be on District Committee. I sure didn’t expect to be with the Boy Scouts of America many years later. Well, here I am.

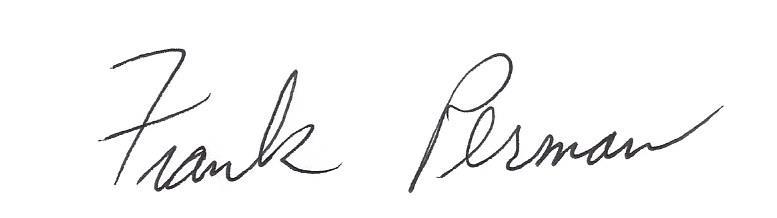
My name is Frank and I’m a Scouter. I am also a licensed Funeral Director. I am married to a wonderful lady. She is a Cubmaster. We have four children. Three of them are Scouts or Scouters. One is an Eagle. He gave me his Eagle mentor pin that I treasure. I am thankful and lucky.

I have been on many Boards of Review for all ranks within BSA Scouting. I have sat on Eagle Boards of Review including, thankfully and blessedly, a rare posthumous Eagle Scout Board of Review.

I have handled, presided and directed Catholic, Orthodox Jewish, Conservative Jewish, Reformed Jewish, Presbyterian, Muslim, Wiccan, Native American, Episcopalian, Latter Day Saint, Hindu, Jehovah Witness, Christian Scientist, Church of God, Church of Christ, Assembly of God, Non-denominational Christian, Buddhist, Lutheran and Universalist Unitarian funerals. I am sure I have missed other denominations. Almost fifty years in funeral service and over thirty years licensed as a Funeral Director has made me appreciate the myriad of faith funeral traditions.

I have handled funerals for Scouters and Scouts. I have paid respects to deceased Scouters. Until, now the Boy Scouts of America has not had a Funeral Memorial Guide. This is my Wood Badge ticket.

Yours In Scouting!



Questions? frank@permanfuneralhome.com