



Newsletter

WINTER 2020

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 3



A Tremendous Gift of Love

By Deborah Bales

As summer fades into fall the leaves change color and the temperatures get cooler. We soon realize that the holidays are just ahead. Many of us are filled with thoughts of decorations, our favorite family recipes, and finding the perfect gifts for the ones we love.

However, gifts come in many forms and at many different times of one's life. One of the most selfless, priceless gifts of love to your

loved ones could be preplanning your funeral. Making funeral arrangements is never easy on a grief-stricken family. Preplanning can relieve your family from the burden of making many hard but necessary decisions and offers Peace of Mind knowing that they have followed YOUR wishes. Preplanning also allows your hurting loved ones to focus on the process of healing...

I will never forget when a young woman came up to me after the funeral of her mother-in-law and said, "We are so blessed that she took care of everything after her husband passed." Then she said this unforgettable statement, "The sun rose and set in her boys. What a wonderful GIFT of LOVE to her sons to spare them so much when their hearts are breaking. She was a blessing."

If you would like more information on preplanning, contact Deborah Bales at 502-354-7152 or deborah.bales@owenfuneralhome.com.

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OWENFUNERALHOME.COM



Let Us Help You Through This Season

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

The holidays are often difficult, but not impossible to get through when grieving. Each week in the "Surviving the Holidays" classes, we will address the various issues that make the holidays challenging.

Weekly Topics

Week 1:

Anticipating the Holidays

Week 2:

Planning for the Holidays

Week 3:

Finding Meaning & Hope in the Holidays



Tuesdays

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

November 17 | November 24 | December 1

*Held at Owen Funeral Home
5317 Dixie Highway, Louisville*



Wednesdays

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

November 18 | November 25 | December 2

*Held at Owen Funeral Home East
9318 Taylorsville Rd., Louisville*

RSVP Information

*If you are interested in attending,
please call or email Genee Nisbet.*

Phone:

502-447-7759

Email:

genee.nisbet@owenfuneralhome.com

OPERATION Toy Soldier



Help us Provide Toys for Children of Military Families

Collecting Toy Donations November 1 - December 1

Operation Toy Soldier is a nationwide initiative to give back to our service men and women, by providing holiday gifts to military children.



We are excited to join with you in collecting toys and gift cards that will bring smiles to the faces of many children this Christmas season.

Last year, we collected hundreds of toys, which were distributed by the Ft. Knox Religious Services Department.

These donations eased the financial burden for many military families who give so much for the freedom of our country.

We begin collecting toys from November 1 - December 1 at both our locations. Join us in making the holidays brighter for our military families! It's a small way for us to say, "Thank You!"



David and Pam Owen

Owen Monument Company



The Owen family is dedicated to providing friendly service in all aspects of funeral planning and memorialization. In 2013, we added the Owen Monument Company to the list of our inhouse services. We are proud to offer this service and hope it eases your mind to work with people who treat you as a neighbor and friend.

Gary Thomas has a wealth of experience in memorialization and funeral planning. He can help with your memorialization needs in the selection of:

- Monuments
- Bronze Memorials
- Headstones & Benches

To learn more visit owenmonument.com or call Gary at 502-387-9555.

Meet Deborah Bales, Director of Pre-Need



Deborah Bales
Director of Pre-Need

Deborah Bales joined the staff of Owen Funeral Homes as Director of Pre-Need in 2020. She is a Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer since 2003. Deborah brings a wealth of education and life experience to this position. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management and a Master's Degree in Human Resources. She

is also a licensed insurance agent in the state of Kentucky, a licensed cosmetologist since 1977, and a licensed cosmetology instructor since 2006.

Deborah has a great love and respect for God and country. She is the daughter of an Air Force Veteran, the wife of an Army Veteran. She is also the proud mother of a highly decorated Army Lieutenant Colonel who is presently serving our great country.

Deborah is a Texas native. She grew up watching her mother lovingly care for the elderly. She married Dave Bales in 1987 and left the "lone star state" in 1992 to call Louisville her home. In Louisville, she met "Mrs. Nancy" who became a surrogate mother and mentor, teaching her the meaning of giving. Through the influence of these beloved women, Deborah developed a love for serving the community and her fellowman. She and Dave are members of the First Church of the Naza-

rene on Blanton Lane; however, they also attend Fern Creek Christian Church. They have 6 children, 16 grandchildren, soon to be 17, (they adopted two of them) and 12 great grandchildren.

Deborah is a member of KIPDA (Kentucky Regional Planning and Development Agency) where she was previously involved in the Family Caregiver and Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Program. She and her husband also graduated from the Citizen's Police Academy Class 19 where they served many volunteer hours for the Louisville Metro Police Department. She and Dave strive to serve the community every opportunity, continuing the legacy of the women who were so important in their lives.

For questions or information on pre-arranging, we encourage you to contact Deborah at 502-354-7152 or deborah.bales@owenfuneralhome.com.

Everyone Needs a Place to be Remembered

By *Geneve Nisbet, M.Div., KLCP*

Creating meaningful memories is important when a loved one dies. It is healing when we make time to mourn for our loved ones. Many believe if we put aside our mourning rituals, it will hurt less. When in fact, it only leaves us alone with our loss. We need rituals to help us heal through loss. Rituals help bring us together and bring order back to our lives. These rituals often begin with planning a funeral. It is important to participate in the planning of your loved one's funeral. Choosing flowers they loved. Selecting special music that points to the essence of their personality. Bringing mementos that represent what and who they loved. Having family members and friends share stories. The funeral service is a celebration of your loved one and helps most when it is personalized. However, this personalization does not end at the funeral service.

It is also important to have a place to remember a loved one. Having a sacred space to "go to" is a form of ritual. Picking the right place in a cemetery, maybe by a beautiful tree or facing the sunset. Creating a marker that encompasses what you feel about your loved one endures as you remember them. If you choose cremation, having a place to reflect and remember with your loved one's name is healing. I recently sat on a bench facing the Ohio River and was surprised to see that it was dedicated in memory of a man whose mother I knew. It gave me a chance to reflect on her love for her son and the opportunity to text her to let her know I was thinking of her while sitting there.

"No one is dead until they are forgotten." -Doug Manning



Photo Courtesy of Rachel Barr



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OWEN FAMILY

Bird S. Owen Jr. (1911-1987)
 Edith R. Owen (1917 - 2015)
 David L. and Pamela H. Owen
 Linda Owen
 Rachel Owen Barr

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MONUMENT DEPARTMENT

Gary Thomas

PREPLANNING DEPARTMENT

Deborah Bales

PASTORAL CARE & AFTERCARE SERVICES

Dr. Kenneth Cutrer
 Genee Nisbet, KLPC

Neighborhood News

Grief Support Groups

Provided by Owen Funeral Homes
 as a Free Public Service

“Now and Beyond”

For Those Who Lost A Spouse
 Every 3rd Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.
 Owen Funeral Home, Jeffersontown
 Every 3rd Friday, 2:00 p.m.
 Location Pending, Contact Owen for Details

“A Parent’s Grief”

For Those Who Lost A Child
 3rd Monday, at 6:30 p.m.
 Owen Funeral Home
 Dixie Location

Spousal Loss Luncheon

Every 1st Friday
 Time & Location Pending
 Contact Owen for Details

For Information:

Please call or email Genene Nisbet,
 Bereavement Services Specialist at 447-7759
genene.nisbet@owenfuneralhome.com

From Our Kitchen To Yours

Ingredients:

- 4 - large red apples
- 4 - navel oranges
- 6 to 8 - bananas (Just ripe, firm)
- 1 - 14 oz. can fruit cocktail (in heavy syrup)
- 1 - 14 to 16 oz. can crushed pineapple (in heavy syrup)
- 1 - can carnation evaporated milk (not condensed milk)
- 1 - cup sweetened flaked coconut + more for the top
- 2/3 cup sugar (you can make it as sweet as you like)
- 1 - cup pecans cut up some and save some halves to decorate top
- 5 or more maraschino cherries sliced in half (optional)

Instructions:

- Open the fruit cocktail and Pineapple and drain (but save the juice from both cans).
- Put fruit in a large bowl. Peel, core and cut apples into small cubes then put in bowl and stir. This will help to keep the apples from turning brown.
- Peel oranges, remove all the white part, separate the sections removing the membranes, and cut up into small pieces into the bowl.
- Peel the bananas and slice into the bowl (save a few slices for the top).
- Add pecans, the cup of coconut, sugar, and can of milk.
- Mix very well, if more juice is needed use the reserved from the cocktail and pineapple.
- Spread more coconut on top and garnish with pecan halves, banana slices and cherries.
- Refrigerate for several hours before serving.

Grandma Andrews’ Fruit Salad

(I cannot have Thanksgiving
 or Christmas without this)

Submitted By Deborah Bales