



**New England  
Donor Services**  
*Organ and Tissue Donation*



## OBITUARY AND MEMORIAL CARD SAMPLE COPY

The memory of your loved one will live on in the recipients whose lives will be forever changed by your loved one's gift of life and healing. You can acknowledge their donation and even inspire others to be organ, eye and tissue donors. These public sentiments will honor your loved one as a hero.

### Obituary and Memorial Card Samples:

Following their death, (**Donor name**) gave the gift of life by being an organ, eye and tissue donor.

(**Donor Name**), known throughout their life for helping others, continued to give following their death by donating their organs, eyes (and/or) tissue for transplantation.

(**Donor Name**), always a generous person, gave the ultimate gift following their death – the gift of life as an organ, eye and tissue donor.

(**Donor Name**)'s generosity continued following their death as they gave the gift of life through organ, eye and tissue donation.

### You may want to invite readers to register as donors in memory of your loved one.

In keeping with (**Donor Name**)'s lifesaving and healing gesture, we invite you to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor in his/her memory at **RegisterMe.org**.

Following (**Donor Name**)'s lifesaving and healing example, we invite you to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor in their memory at **RegisterMe.org**.

### You may choose to invite readers to make a financial contribution in memory of your loved one to New England Donor Services

(**Donor Name**)'s final act of kindness was to save and heal lives through organ, eye and tissue donation.

Please consider making a memorial contribution to New England Donor Services (online at [neds.org/give](https://neds.org/give) or by mail at 60 First Avenue, Waltham, MA 02451).

All financial contributions support the critical effort to educate the community about the importance of donation and the NEDS Aftercare Program.

*Caring for families together*



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## POEMS TO COMMEMORATE YOUR LOVED ONE'S LEGACY

The memory of your loved one will live on in the recipients whose lives will be forever changed by your loved one's gift of life and healing. You can acknowledge their donation and inspire others to be organ, eye and tissue donors. These public sentiments will honor your loved one as a hero.

### “To Remember Me” Poem

*The day will come when my body will lie upon a white sheet, neatly tucked under four corners of a mattress located in a hospital busily occupied with the living and the dying. At a certain moment, a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to function and that for all intents and purposes, my life has stopped.*

*When that happens, do not attempt to instill artificial life into my body by the use of a machine.*

*And don't call this my death bed.*

*Let it be called the Bed of Life, and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.*

*Give my sight to the man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love in the eyes of a woman.*

*Give my heart to a person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain.*

*Give my blood to a teenager who was pulled from the wreckage of his car so that he might live to see his grandchildren play.*

*Give my kidneys to one who depends on a machine to exist from week to week.*

*Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk.*

*Explore every corner of my brain.*

*Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that someday, a speechless boy will shout at the crack of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her window.*

*Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the winds to help flowers grow.*

*If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses and all prejudice against my fellow man.*

*Give my sins to the devil.*

*Give my soul to God.*

*If by chance you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.*

— by Robert N. Test

### My Final Gift

*It is now time for me to move on  
Into the dusk, but also the dawn.*

*I will remain as the morning comes  
As I've left behind a gift for someone.*

*So another may walk, may talk, may see,  
Where their life was locked,*

*I offered a key.*

*I am a donor to someone in need.*

*My final gift, my final deed.*

— Author Unknown

### Invite attendees to register as donors in memory of your loved one.

In keeping with (**Donor Name**)'s lifesaving and healing gesture, we invite you to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor in his/her memory at **RegisterMe.org**.

Following (**Donor Name**)'s lifesaving and healing example, we invite you to register as an organ, eye and tissue donor in his/her memory at **RegisterMe.org**.

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## CEREMONY SAMPLE COPY

Sample scripts may be used for a moment of honor; flag raising or casket draping; medal or certificate presentation or other ceremonies honoring organ, eye and tissue donors.

Today, I have the privilege of honoring the life of **(Donor Name)** by raising the Donate Life flag at **(Funeral Home Name)**

I understand **(Donor Name)** was a very special person, a person of character with a giving spirit who cared about others.

Although your loss is extremely difficult, we hope you will take some comfort in knowing that **(Donor Name)** made the greatest humanitarian gift. Their memory will live on in your hearts and in the hearts of everyone who is touched by this donation.

Each year, the lives of thousands of people are saved or greatly improved through the miracle of transplantation. The true heroes behind this miracle are organ, eye and tissue donors. Words cannot possibly express the gratitude of those whose lives have been saved and healed by this generous gift.

On behalf of New England Donor Services and all those who have received **(Donor Name)**'s gifts, please accept this **(flag, medal, certificate)** as a symbol of our appreciation. We are eternally grateful. You and your loved one will always be remembered.

Today we pause to honor the life of **(Donor Name)**. As we reflect on **(Donor Name)**'s life, we acknowledge that their final act was to give the most precious gift anyone could give, the gift of life through organ, eye and tissue donation. May we find hope in the renewed life brought by this final, selfless act.

Your loved one will always be remembered.