

Humanist Ceremonies

**BRINGING PEOPLE
TOGETHER TO SAY**

goodbye

**AND CELEBRATE
THE LIFE LIVED**

Humanist Ceremonies™ is the national network of celebrants trained and accredited by Humanists UK to conduct personal, meaningful, non-religious ceremonies for life's major moments including birth, marriage, and death.

Whilst anyone can call themselves a humanist celebrant, only those trained and accredited by Humanists UK can call themselves a Humanist Ceremonies celebrant. They represent the gold standard in non-religious funerals.

We're confident our celebrants are the best people for an incredibly important role.

"You gave dad a farewell that he would have loved. It was such a relief to be able to laugh as well as cry and so many people afterwards asked us if you had known him. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

"I'm religious, but that was the most meaningful and satisfying funeral I've ever been to."

HUMANIST FUNERALS AREN'T...

ONLY FOR THOSE WHO SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED A HUMANIST FUNERAL

In fact, humanist funerals are suitable for anyone who would be most appropriately remembered with a personal, non-religious ceremony.

A FLASH IN THE PAN

Non-religious people have always wanted a non-religious way to mark death with dignity, and Humanists UK has been providing humanist funerals to meet that need for over 120 years now – since 1896. That said, it's true that humanist funerals have become much more popular in recent years as religious belief has declined.

THE EXCEPTION

With 53% of the population identifying as non-religious* and over a million attending our ceremonies every year, humanist funerals are becoming the mainstream choice.

'BANNED' FROM INCLUDING RELIGIOUS CONTENT

Religious influence is embedded in our everyday life and often appreciated by non-religious people. A hymn may remind someone of their favourite rugby team, for example. So humanist funerals can involve 'religious' content where it reflects on the life of the person, but not as an act of collective worship.

HUMANIST FUNERALS ARE...

ABOUT THE PERSON WHO HAS DIED

Humanist funerals are about the person who has died, the life they led and the relationships they forged. They are based on the humanist perspective that every life is individual and valuable.

UNIQUE, FLEXIBLE, AND INCLUSIVE

Working with a celebrant, each family can decide how best to say goodbye to their loved one. And, as funerals are for everyone affected by the person's death, we often include time for contemplation where people can privately reflect according to their own beliefs.

HELD WHEREVER YOU WISH

Although crematoriums and cemeteries are still the prominent choices, more and more people are realising that they can choose a private burial or cremation, followed by a memorial ceremony in the days or weeks after. This can be held in a location or venue that is more fitting, personal and less rushed.

WARM, DIGNIFIED, AND HONEST

Attending a funeral that is true to the person who has died is deeply poignant and can give great comfort.

* Reference: 34th British Social Attitudes report, 2017
www.bsa.natcen.ac.uk

Meaningful non-religious ceremonies just for you

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