

1984 Memorial Service adapted from program by "The Bob Fischer Club"

Reverently we pause in memory of those who for awhile walked with us in the labyrinth of Human Life and who have now journeyed beyond the sunset into God's Eternal Garden. As we feel their spiritual presence ever near us, this should no be an occasion of sadness but rather one of tender recollections and gratitude for all that it has been our fortune to share. These members have passed on to a more beautiful life, but still they live in the temple of our hearts.

Song: How Great Thou Art

The cross is the symbol of Christianity. Christ gave himself to die and on the third day He arose and said, "I am the Way, the Truth and Life, and no man cometh to the Father except through Me." Our Eastern Star is founded on these truths and we have faith that our Sisters and Brothers who have gone the way of the Cross are not dead but will live again.

With the flower of Adah we remember the daughters and sons who have journeyed to God's Eternal Garden this past year. The jobs they brought into our homes will always be remembered. We take the vow of Fidelity and promise to be true to them and to our living children.

With the flower of Ruth, we remember our widows and all who became a part of our families thorough marriage. Their many kindnesses have made our lives richer and fuller. May we, like Ruth, be constant in our efforts to bring families closer together.

With the flower of Esther, we remember our husbands and wives. When one is called to God's Eternal Garden, the other one, like Esther, appreciates the love and loyalty of some whose life and joys and sorrows are intertwined with ours.

With the fern of Martha, we remember our Sisters and Brothers. It was they who made our homes a place of gaiety and fun. May our Faith of Martha be inspired by the teachings of Jesus, "that beyond the grave the loved ones gone before are waiting to welcome us to our Eternal Home."

With the rose of Electa we remember our mothers and fathers who brought us into the world and gave us food and clothing. But more than that, they taught us by their words and deeds of Love of Christ and His word. Their love, like the love of Electa encompassed our lives and made us know the love of God and Man.

We place these flowers in loving memory of our own Sisters and Brothers of this chapter who have passed through the Gates to the Eternal Garden and have heard the words of the Master "Well done, Thou good and faithful servant, enter Thou in." Our charter has been draped in memory of these members. May we cherish their memories and gain inspiration from their lives. Although called upon to part with them, we may still look

unto the hills from whence cometh our help and with Faith know they just passed through an open door into God's Garden of Love.

Let us Pray: Eternal and everlasting Father in the glory of Thy presence, we reverently bow before Thee to pay tribute to the members who Thou hast called to their Eternal Home. With grateful hearts we recognize their indelible imprint upon our lives. We are keenly conscious of their guiding love and help in the past and their spiritual presence even now. Guide us in Thy footsteps so that when we come to the end of life's road, we may join our friends and loved ones who are waiting to welcome us to God's eternal garden.

Amen