LADY MATRON:

Sisters and Brothers, at this time we will dedicate a portion of this meeting to the memory of our departed members, who, in days gone by, have met with us in the holy bonds of fraternity. It is fitting at this time that we bring to the attention of this Chapter the virtues that characterized their lives and made their service to our beloved Chapter a thing to be remembered. Sister Associate Matron.

AS QUAKE MATRON (with a bow):

Worthy Matron.

LADY CHAPMAN:

Will you and the officers of this Chapter assist me in paying a loving tribute to those whose names have been inscribed in the records of ETERNITY?

AS QUAKE MATRON:

Worthy Matron, it will be my pleasure and my privilege, as well as my duty, to assist you in laying upon the altar of memory the deeds of our departed members whose loyalty to our beloved Chapter still shines with a lovely radiance even though their form are no longer seen within our Chapter room. The officers of your Chapter will assist in this memorial ceremony upon your invitation.

Worthy Matron:

Sisters and brothers, the altar tonight shall be called the Altar of Memory. This candle that I light in the East shall be called the CANDLE OF MEMORY. (Lights candle before her)

AS CHAPMAN:

Worthy Matron,

AS W.M. (with a bow):

Worthy Matron.

W.E. CHAPMAN:

Will you approach the East. (Gives lighted candle to Marshal) Accept from me this light of memory which you shall carry to the altar of our Star who represent the five distinguished heroines of our Order and, after all their candles are lighted, return the candle of memory to the East.

(Marshal accepts candle from W.M. and faces west)

W.E. CHAPMAN:

Sisters and brothers, as we conduct this memorial service, may we hear the voice of Him whose coming was heralded by the Star of the East, speaking to us in His ever comforting words:

"I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die." 

And "in my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am, there ye may be also." And let the comforting assurance come to us, "That if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."
Worthy Matron, my duty has been performed.

WORTHY MATRON:
Sister Secretary,

SECRETARY:
Worthy Matron,

WORTHY MATRON:
Sister Secretary, do the records of this Chapter show the names of our members who have received their promotion into a higher sphere of existence so that we may lay their names upon the Altar of Memory tonight?

SECRETARY:
Worthy Matron, my records show the names of (give number) sisters and brothers, who have received their promotion. (Hands list of names of departed members with history of date of admission to the Chapter, any service or office held, and date of death.)

WORTHY MATRON:
Worthy Matron,

WORTHY MATRON:
Worthy Matron,

WORTHY MATRON:
Worthy Matron, will you read to us the names and the histories of our departed members taken from the Secretary's records?

SECRETARY:
Worthy Matron, the names of our departed members are---(reads record as prepared by the Secretary). Worthy Matron, my duty has been performed.

WORTHY MATRON:
May this hour be filled with the spirit of love that can bridge time and space and bring back to us in our thoughts and in our prayers the memory of all those we hold most dear. This is a sacred moment. May we waft on the wings of song our heartfelt message of love tonight.

SUGGT: (appropriate song)

CHM: (**calls up the officers who remain standing during the following ceremony): Worthy Matron, will you call upon the Five Points of our emblematic star to offer their tribute to our beloved departed members.
ASSOCIATE MATERON (with a bow, leaves her place, walks to the East, faces west; bows to the Star Points who rise, taking their lighted candles, and form a circle around the altar.)

ASSOCIATE MATERON:

Mary Adah, (Adah bows and replies, "Associate Materon") What is your tribute of memory as symbolized by the blue ray?

MATERON:

Blue symbolizes Fidelity and is appropriate to Jepthah's daughter, who, in the morning of life, surrendered to the grave the brightest of earthly hopes, that she might be faithful to her convictions of right and preserve her father's honor. As a token of faithfulness to the memory of our departed members, I place this candle as a tribute of faithful love upon the Altar of Memory. (steps forward to altar and deposits candle; then returns to her place in the circle; makes a slight bow to the S. I. Other Star Points do likewise.)

ASSOCIATE MATERON:

Sister Ruth, what is your tribute of memory as symbolized by the yellow ray?

MATERON:

Yellow symbolizes Constancy, teaching faithful obedience to the demands of honor and justice. Ruth exemplified these virtues in humble station and sought the society of the good and true. In token of appreciation of these virtues, I place this candle as a tribute of steadfast constancy upon the Altar of Memory.

ASSOCIATE MATERON:

Sister Zetah, what is your tribute of memory as symbolized by the white ray?

MATERON:

White symbolizes Light and Purity. The heroic Queen Esther desired the purity of her native and love of kindred and friends by her willingness to risk the loss of crown and life to save her people from death. In token of sincere affection for our departed members, I place this candle as a tribute of light and purity upon the Altar of Memory.

ASSOCIATE MATERON:

Sister Martha, what is your tribute of memory as symbolized by the green ray?

MATERON:

Green is an emblem of nature's life and beauty. The evergreen is a symbol of Immortal Life and teaches us that in the economy of God, there is no death, forms change, but the spirit survives. Martha, beside the grave of her beloved brother, carried her trustful faith and hope of immortal life. In the fullness of our departed members entrance upon a glorious immortality, I place this candle as a tribute of trustful faith upon the Altar of Memory.
Sister Electa, what is your tribute of memory as symbolized by the red ray?

ELECTA:
Red symbolizes Fervency and Zeal. Electa represents those who have been pre-eminent in charity and heroic in endurance of the wrongs of persecution. In token of the fervency of our affection for our departed loved ones, I place this candle as a tribute of love upon the Altar of Memory.

ASSOCIATE PATRON (turns and addresses W. M.)
Worthy Matron, the five rays of our emblematic Star have told of the virtues exemplified by those who were once of us, but who are now living in a holy realm, and have made their tributes at the Altar of Memory.

(A. M. and Star Points return to their stations)
Worthy Matron, my duty has been performed.

MOTHER PATRON (with spray of flowers in her arms):
Sisters and brothers, the Infinite Father's ever watchful care is nowhere more impressively taught than by His voice speaking to us through the floral kingdom. Over the whole earth where life exists, flowers bloom in endless variety and profusion; there is no place so obscure but that they blossom there and give to the world their beauty and fragrance.

The lessons and sentiments brought to us by the flowers are sweet and beautiful, but they have for us another impressive lesson of greatest importance and the deepest significance: Year by year, we see the flowers bloom in all their beauty, live their life, and then wither, fade, and pass away. But we know that they are not dead. We know that in God's own time, they will bloom again in a richer, more abundant beauty. It is fitting and proper that we place these flowers with the names of our departed members, at the Altar of Memory.

(W. M. carries flowers and list and deposits on altar; 
returns to her station)

ASSOCIATE PATRON:
Worthy Matron, during the past years, several members of our Chapter have been bereaved through the severing of family ties, and it is fitting that we lay upon the Altar of Memory an offering of flowers to honor those departed loved ones of the members of this Chapter: Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, will you approach the East?

(they do so and A. M. gives flowers to each)
My sisters, in the name of this Chapter, and upon request of our members, I present these flowers to be placed by you at the Altar of Memory, in remembrance of the departed loved ones of our members. I will accompany you and lay this card bearing the words, "Loved Ones of the Members," on the Altar of Memory.

(A. M. Cond. & A. C. perform their commission; return to stations)
SISTERS: (Appropriate song)
WORTHY PATRON:

Sisters and brothers, realizing that death and separation are not the plan of God, and knowing that His boundless love fills all space, let us gather at the altar and ask His blessing upon those who are away and those who are here.

(** calls up entire Chapter)**

(All form a circle and join hands as in initiation AFTER Chaplain has assumed her place at altar and has knelt.)

CHAIRMAN:

Our Father, with a heart full of love for Thee and for all of our members whom Thou hast called to a higher plane of service, we bow at this altar honoring Thy name and accepting Thy promises. We know that because of Thy love we all shall be united again when this life of service is over. We gather at this altar in their memory and ask Thee to bless this sacred moment. Our loved ones are precious in Thy sight. Their memory is holy to us. The golden circle is forming in Heaven. And when "one by one" (members drop hands) we enter Thy portals may we again find in happy association those loved ones who have gone before. All this we ask in love. Amen.

SING OF ALL: (Appropriate song) "God be with you ever..."

(At conclusion of song, all remain in the circle until the Chaplain has returned to her station; then all return to seats. Conductress, without instruction, extinguishes candles on the altar and W.M. extinguishes candle on the pedestal in the East.)