Worthy Matron - Sisters, Brothers and visitors, at this time we will dedicate this portion of the meeting to our departed and living members of Lansford Chapter #72. It is fitting at this time that we bring to the attention the virtues that characterized their lives and their service to our beloved chapter that will close as of Dec. 1998. Memories never to be forgotten.

The officers of this chapter will assist me in paying a loving tribute to the Sisters and Brothers of Lansford Chapter.

Our alter tonight shall be called the “Alter of Memories”.

Sister Assoc. Matron.

Associate Matron - It will be my pleasure and privilege to assist you in laying upon the alter the names and memories of all the members who were and are members of our Lansford Chapter #72. Their loyalty and lovely radiance kept our chapter active for 88 years.

Worthy Matron - Sister Secretary.

Sister Secretary - I put these records of Lansford Chapter #72 upon the “Alter of Memories”. These records characterize the lives of our Star members and their service given to our chapter. May the names of the Stars recorded in these books 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 memories of all those we hold most dear.

Worthy Matron - Brother Treasurer.

Brother Treasurer - I put these treasurer books on the “Alter of Memories”. These books have received all money from the secretary and with the spirit of love paid out to give honor to our Lansford chapter.

Worthy Matron - Sister Conductress.

Sister Conductress - This candle that is lit tonight shall be called the “Candle of Memories”. With loving thoughts and cherished memories we are garnered with the emblem of natures life and beauty, to our Sisters and Brothers whose presence brought us inspiration. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son that who so ever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.”

Worthy Matron - Throughout the years members of our chapter have passed on, it is fitting that we lay upon the “Alter of Memories” flowers to honor those departed loved Stars of our Lansford chapter #72.

Sister Associate Conductress.

Associate Conductress - My Sisters and Brothers in the name of Lansford chapter I present these flowers to be placed on the “Alter of Memories” in remembrance of our departed Sisters and Brothers. We find this promise in God’s Holy Word Revelations 2:10 “Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”
Won by Patron - History of our Chapter.

Won by Matron - I would like to honor our Secretaries of whom I know put in many extra hours in keeping our chapters in order. Many years were put in by Hazel Anderson, Grace Hurdelbrink, and Janice Talley. They had to sit in the coldest spot of the chapter rooms.

CLOSE THE CHAPTER

WM - Associate Conductress, take up the flowers and in our thoughts and in our prayers the memory of all those we hold most dear.

WM - Brother Treasurer, take up the treasurer books which throughout the years has taken care of our livelihood with love and honor from the Sisters and Brothers of the Lansford chapter.

WM - Sister Secretary take up the records of the Stars we hold most dear and for all their services given in love recorded in our records of Lansford Chapter #72.

WM - Sister Associate Matron, take up the names from the altar. Help us to know that these names who will be but memories of our Lansford Chapter shall be in they loving care. We thank thee for thy sustaining grace and thy comforting power - abide in our hearts, lead us in understanding and strengthen us to do thy will.

WM - Sister Conductress, take up the candle of memories and now may the Lord lift up the light of his grace upon thee, and give thee peace, may the Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.

WM - Sister would you take up the badge, the sword and the veil of Adah which symbolizes Fidelity.

WM - Sister would you take up the badge and sheaf of Ruth, which symbolizes Constancy.

WM - Sister would you take up the badge and the crown and scepter of Esther which symbolizes Light and Joy.

WM - Sister would you take up the badge and the Broken Column of Martha, which symbolizes Hope and Immortality.

WM - Sister would you take up the badge and the cup of Electa, which symbolizes Fervency and the emblem of Charity and Hospitality.

WM - Brother Associate Patron would you retire the flag.

WM - Brother Chaplain would you take up the Bible.

WM - At a moment such as this, the gift of memory seems most precious. God helps us to forget sorrow and despair and to remember the good and the beautiful. as we take up the Bible from the "Alter of Memories". Dear God who reigns in heaven above, guide our course with all His love. Let us be faithful to friends, constant in deeds, love in our hearts and helpful in need.
WM - Brother Worthy Patron would you take up the charter, the oldest of all the Order of Eastern Star pieces or composition found in our Chapter room. The names of our charter members whom we all know worked hard to organize and make legal Lansford Chapter #72 - February 1912 to December 22, 1998 - 88 years of knowledge and dedication have been given to Lansford Chapter #72.

And now my Sisters and Brothers and visitors - Farewell, Be perfect, Be of good Comfort, Be of one mind, live in peace and the God of Love and Peace be with you. And now as you go on your way, may God go with you. May He go before you, to show you the way. May He go behind you to encourage you - Beside you to befriend you - Above you to watch over you and with you to give you peace. Have a safe journey home.

By the power of our Worthy Grand Matron I now declare Lansford Chapter #72 - Closed. Sister Warder you will so inform Sister Sentinel.
Worthy Matron:

"Sisters and Brothers, we are about to hold our Memorial Service for those who have passed from our midst during this year. These good and faithful members of our chapter will continue to be greatly missed. Our sympathy is sent to their loved ones, whose hearts now have a great void. No one can fill their place, but we have the blessed assurance of Him who has gone before to prepare a place for us, that we will meet again in the Great Beyond."

"Sister Secretary, you will read the names of those departed from us during the past year."

Secretary:
(reads names + dates of deaths)

Worthy Matron:

"Sister Associate Conductor, you will place the memorial wreath on the altar."

(Suitable hymns may be played during the placement of all symbolic items - this will add a very nice touch to the service.)

"Worthy Matron:

"An angel of the Lord, guardian of his love and caring, will be placed next to the open Bible by our Sister Marshall (or Secretary)."
Worthy Matron:

"In honor of life immortal, we place the ivy." (substitute "we place a plant or green" if ivy not available)

Worthy Matron:

"Our chaplin will lead us in the Lord's Prayer"

(Chaplin at Alter - or at station)

Chaplin: (and all present)

Our Father... amen,

(Chaplin returns to station)

Worthy Matron: rose, goose, once to indicate service is over.

* To adopt service all participants, the Assoc. Conductor, Secretary, or Marshal and Treasurer could all touch the altar just before departing and say "Be with God." If the Conductor was to say it also, it might distract from the reading of names.

This is only an idea it was not actually used this time.

Use this service in St. John, Linda Hyatt, W.M.