



BETA THETA PI BURIAL SERVICE

This ceremony is located in Beta's Ritual Book on page 135.

The burial service may be performed with the permission of the deceased brother or of a close family member. The presiding brother should make arrangements with the family members and with the minister or priest as to the timing of the performance of the service. It is thought that the service should be performed upon arrival at the burial site and prior to the final religious service of the deceased brother.

The only Beta Theta Pi addition to the brother's religious funeral service should be the placing, if desired by the family or the brother, of the flag of Beta Theta Pi, to be ordered from the Administrative Office at beta.org/flag and placed in military fashion over the coffin of the deceased brother during the funeral service and during the service at the burial site.

THE SERVICE

Presiding Brother: Will all members of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity please join me in forming the mystic circle around the final resting place of our dear departed brother.

Presiding Brother: In memory of our cherished brother, _____, ever treasured in our hearts and of all those faithful souls who, in years on earth, loved and labored for Beta Theta Pi, I ask you to stand with bowed head for a moment of perfect silence remembering our friend and brother, thinking of fraternal friendship, renewing vows of fraternal fidelity, breathing a fraternal prayer, and to remain standing until, with sentiment and supplication, the stillness is broken.

Directions: *After a moment of silence the speaker will quote the lines from Isaiah 12:2:*

"Surely it is God who saves me.
I will trust in him and not be afraid
For the Lord is my stronghold and
my sure defense
And He will be my savior."

Directions: *After a momentary pause the presiding brother will say, "Let us pray." The service at this point will be made more effective if another person, previously arranged, repeats the following prayer:*

"Almighty and everlasting God, before whom stand the spirits of the living and the dead, we thank Thee for the good example and brave testimony of our brother, _____, (repeat the brother's full name); for the faith which wrought righteousness and obtained promises; for the witness of saintly souls; for ascended spirits with whom we once took counsel together; for all those who being dead yet speak. Thou hast made us to be one family with Thee; and Thy care and love for Thy household cannot be told. In this hour we ask your presence with the family of our friend and brother, and may the meditation of our hearts and the answers of our lips be from Thee: (optional) through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Presiding Officer: Will the brothers of Beta Theta Pi now join with me in singing the Beta Doxology.

Bless now, O God on high,
Bless Beta Theta Pi:
Let naught of wrong
Sully our mystic gem.
Let not the wreath be dim;
Then shall praise be to Him
To whom our song.

Directions: *If a flag has been used in the service the presiding brother, together with one other brother, will remove the flag from the coffin, fold it in the military manner or in the manner of folding the American flag, and present the flag to the deceased brother's wife or next of kin.*