

A Celebration of Life

Leader: We have lost a dear sister from our chapter
Let us celebrate her life.

Leader: When I die,
Write but one word on my stone:

Members: **Write “Teacher”**
Never mind a date or name,

Leader: For only in this way would I be known,
Without a title, timeless, without fame.

Member: **Perhaps some who wander through the grounds**
where I lie sleeping,

Leader: As they pass through
May they read the brief tributes above the mounds,
And not the word, then speak of some they knew.

Members: **“Now my first teacher taught me how to love,”**
And “I remember how one teacher smiled.”

Leader: “Another teacher took my thought above the world that I,
A big eyed clumsy child, knew”.

All: **And, as these thoughts are stirred above my Head,**
I shall be teaching. . .
Though mortals call me dead.

Adapted from “A Teacher Dreams” by Mary Oler, 1978

Our white rose is placed in honor of her signature written in our Constitution at her initiation and we now transfer her name to the Book of Memories. We remember her contributions to education, her community and our Society. We place a red rose to signify the commitment of those left behind to fulfill the purposes of our Society.

(The roses may be placed on a Bible, the Constitution, a Book of Memories or on a table. Candles could also be used in this ceremony. It would also be appropriate to have a member tell about the deceased member and her accomplishments. As a closing for the ceremony, an appropriate song or hymn could be included)

