

Meet our Celebrants



Ron Nagel

A natural affinity for working with people and some unique life experiences steered Ron Nagel into his role as a Certified Funeral Celebrant at Speers. For 36 years prior, he owned and operated Nagel's Audio Visual, and spent much

of his free time as a volunteer with community organizations focused on helping people. In 2005, Speers was fortunate to welcome Ron as a Funeral Service Attendant. Ron proved to have a natural ability to guide families through a difficult time and consequently, in 2008, he became a Certified Funeral Celebrant.

Michelle Rohde



A zest for life, music and deep compassion for people has led Michelle Rohde to her role as a Certified Funeral Celebrant at Speers. In childhood Michelle took up playing the guitar. In 2009, she released a gospel album entitled "Welcome Home" and is currently working on her second album. Ministry experience, her own experience with death, and a desire to help others guided Michelle to train as a Certified Funeral Celebrant.



Janet Mitchell

An appreciation and interest in others and an innate ability to understand and care for the community led Janet to her role as a Certified Funeral Celebrant at Speers. Janet's years of experience in business and health

care fields have naturally developed her ability to serve families at their time of need.

Speers Chapel



Our Chapel has been tastefully designed as an option for those who do not wish a formal church setting. Conveniently located within the funeral home, it provides a dignified setting for family, friends and the community to gather together and pay tribute to the deceased.

Speers Family Centre

In addition to being fully renovated inside and out, our Family Centre has been completely outfitted to handle all audio/visual needs. The Family Centre provides a peaceful and comfortable place for families to gather for services or receptions. Full catering services are available.



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A Guide to

Celebrant Services

For planning services

as unique as
your loved one



What is a Celebrant?

A celebrant is a person who seeks to meet the needs of families during their time of loss. They serve by providing a funeral service that is personalized to reflect the personality and lifestyle of the deceased. The celebrant helps plan and present personalized memorials, celebrations of life and funeral services. Celebrants are facilitators, attentive and sensitive interviewers, creative writers, professional public speakers, loss and grief educators and ceremonial leaders.

Why use a Celebrant?

An increasing number of Canadians say they are non-religious and define their spirituality in different ways. A funeral, memorial or celebration of life service that reflects an individual's lifestyle and personality, often mirrors his or her spiritual nature. The friends and family of the deceased often wish to participate in the planning and presentation of a personalized end of life ceremony, but are uncertain how to do so. They may be uncomfortable with public speaking and/or speaking publicly about death and loss.

How do I work with a Celebrant?

A Speers Celebrant will schedule a special family time for the family to share memories, anecdotes and special moments of a loved one's life. The Celebration of life will be based upon these details. Speers celebrants are specially trained to design a service that is completely personal, incorporating those unique stories, music and experiences that defined the loved one's life. The celebrant will provide an opportunity for the family to participate to whatever level they wish.

Who certifies Celebrants?

Our Celebrants are certified by the In-Sight Institute, which has certified more than 1600 celebrants in North America, and provide the most comprehensive and sensitive training possible. Certified Celebrants follow a Code of Ethics that ensures complete confidentiality in all dealings with the family.



www.insightbooks.com

Frequently asked Questions

Do celebrants only plan funeral services?

In addition to funeral services, our celebrants are trained to plan highly personalized memorial services, graveside services, anniversary tributes, tree planting or bench dedication, or any other gathering designed to honor the deceased.

Where can the service be held?

Although most services are conducted in our chapel, our celebrants are available to conduct a service at any venue the family chooses.

Can I still participate in the service?

Our celebrants recommend that the family participates in the service as much as they feel comfortable doing so. The celebrant can assist your family regardless of the level of participation.

Will the celebrant be the sole officiant?

You may choose to have the celebrant as the sole officiant of the service, however, you are welcome to choose any family member, friend or clergy member to co-officiate the service.

How can a service be personalized?

Services can be personalized through the use of music, candles, photos, memory boards or video tributes. A memory table is another way to personalize, placing items unique to your loved one on display for others to view.