

35th cycle - Sanjusankaiki
50th cycle Gojikkaiki
100th cycle - Hyakkaiki

Thereafter, observances are held at 50-year intervals.

As the first year memorial of the deceased approaches, contact the temple and your minister to arrange for a service before the date of death of the deceased.

Our temple holds a Shotsuki (monthly) Memorial Service. This service may be done in place of scheduling individual Hoji (family) Services. At this time, family members may burn incense in memory of the deceased.

The Obon service is a general memorial service held once a year for all those who have passed away since the last Obon service. A special effort should be made by family members to attend the first Obon service (Hatsu Bon) after the death of a loved one.

DONATION SCHEDULE

The following are only **suggested** amounts for gratuities and donations. **Any amount is very much appreciated.** Please note these numbers are consistent with temples throughout the West Coast. **If the service is scheduled on a day when our visiting minister is not already here for our regular service, please add travel, room and board expenses for the officiating minister.**

	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
FUNERAL:		
Temple	\$400.00	\$600.00
Away Services	\$300.00	\$350.00
<i>Ofuse</i> - Minister	\$250.00	\$300.00
Organist	\$ 75.00	\$100.00
Custodian	\$ 75.00	\$100.00
CREMATION / BURIAL SERVICE:		
Temple	\$100.00	\$150.00
<i>Ofuse</i> - Minister	\$100.00	\$200.00

49 DAY AND FAMILY MEMORIAL SERVICE:

Temple	\$100.00	\$150.00
<i>Ofuse</i> - Minister	\$100.00	\$200.00

Note: A non-dues paying person cannot be a member through their parents.

SUMMARY

Whether after a long illness or a sudden death, the passing of a loved one can be a traumatic and difficult time for any family. This is a time that should be reserved for grieving, reflecting and meditating. For this reason, this Guide is offered to assist you and your family in making the final arrangements for your loved one. We recommend that a majority of the details be discussed and/or written down in advance. The Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha will always be available to assist you and your family.

CONTACT INFORMATION

This information will change over time so, please contact any board member or officer, and they will give you the current information.

FUNERAL GUIDE



PREFACE

My disciples, my end is approaching, our parting is near, but do not lament. Life is ever changing; none can escape the dissolution of the body. This I am now to show by my own death, my body falling apart like a dilapidated cart...

Do not vainly lament, but realize that nothing is permanent and learn from it the emptiness of human life. Do not cherish the unworthy desire that the changeable might become unchanging."

The demon of worldly desires is always seeking chances to deceive the mind. If a viper lives in your room and you wish to have a peaceful sleep, you must first chase it out."

You must break the bonds of worldly passions and drive them away as you would a viper. You must positively protect your own mind"

My disciples, my last moment has come, but do not forget that death is only the end of the physical body. The body was born from parents and was nourished by food; just as inevitable are sickness and death."

But the true Buddha is not a human body; - it is Enlightenment. A human body must die, but the Wisdom of Enlightenment will exist forever in the truth of the Dharma and in the practice of the Dharma. He who sees merely my body does not truly see me. Only he who accepts my teaching truly sees me."

After my death, the Dharma shall be your teacher. Follow the Dharma and you will be true to me."

During the last forty-five years of my life, I have withheld nothing from my teachings. There is no secret teaching, no hidden meaning; everything has been taught openly and clearly. My dear disciples, this is the end. In a moment, I shall be passing into Nirvana. This is my instruction."

From the *Mahaparinirvana Sutra*

On behalf of the Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha, we extend our heartfelt condolences to you and your family on the passing of your loved one.

Shakya-muni Buddha, the founder of Buddhism taught that those who see only his body do not truly see him. Those who accept his teaching truly see him. With true love and compassion, your beloved has now become one borne into the Pure Land. Hear their voiceless voice as they speak to you from the Buddha's Land.

Please know that the Sangha will do everything possible to make this traumatic time as easy and stress free as possible. The following information will help you to take the necessary steps to honor the memory of your loved one.

Gassho,

Las Vegas Buddhist Sangha

A. IMMEDIATELY AFTER A DEATH OCCURS

1. CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR AND/OR CORONER
 - a. It is required by law to contact the proper authorities in the event of any death. This may be facility staff, doctor, coroner and/or mortuary.
2. CONTACT THE MINISTER/SANGHA
 - a. The Sangha will put you in contact with a minister and take care of the Memorial Service Program.
3. CONTACT A MORTUARY
 - a. Necessary information about the deceased that will be needed by the mortuary:
 - Exact spelling of full, legal name
 - Birth date and birthplace
 - Social Security number
 - Address
 - Length of residence at current address
 - Name of spouse
 - Name and birthplace of father
 - Maiden name and birthplace of mother
 - Cause of death
 - Place of burial or cremation
 - b. The mortuary will provide information about and schedule the following:
 - Preparation of the body
 - Casket / Urn
 - Available facilities for funeral, cremation and/or burial services
 - Funeral cortege and cars
 - Cremation or burial arrangement
 - Obituary notices (local papers).
 - c. The mortuary may also assist you with the necessary paperwork concerning:
 - Death Certificate(s) - it is advisable to get multiple copies
 - Social Security death benefits information
 - Insurance claims
 - Veterans and union benefits
4. CONTACT RELATIVES AND CLOSE FRIENDS
 - As soon as circumstances allow, notify people by telephone, in person, or by any other means of immediate communication.

B. MAKING SUSHIKI (FUNERAL) ARRANGEMENTS

1. SELECT SOMEONE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILY
2. MEET WITH THE MINISTER
3. SUBSEQUENT MEMORIAL SERVICES
 - 49th day - Shikukunichi (Manchuin) memorial serviceAccording to the Buddhist tradition, every 7 days after his/her death, the deceased family continues to observe the memorial service until 7th, 7 days, namely 49 days. According to the traditional way of counting, the yearly cycles begin with the Meinichi or death date as 1.
 - 7th cycle - Shichikaiki
 - 13th cycle - Jusankaiki
 - 17th cycle - Jushichikaiki
 - 25th cycle - Nijugokaiki