

Honor Guard Closing Prayer at Funeral Home – Version 1

(Repeat three times)

- Our Father
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord,
(response) and let the perpetual light shine upon him
-

Let us pray,

Dearest Jesus, give strength and compassion to the widows and families of our beloved deceased Sir Knights and Brother Knights.

We praise and honor our fallen dead brothers on life's field of battle, just as we praised the knights of past ages, for their strong and faithful defense of our Christian faith and our beloved order.

Let we, yes we the living, draw up these fallen swords from battle and lift them up to heaven; demonstrating to the world that these swords not only stand for the liberty of mankind but also as mission crosses for the expansion of our church and our beloved order, the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus / May Jesus Live

Honor Guard Closing Prayer at Funeral Home – Version 1a

(Repeat three times)

- Our Father
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord,
(response) and let the perpetual light shine upon him
-

Let us pray,

Dearest Jesus, give strength and compassion to the
(if applicable widow and) family of our beloved
deceased Sir Knight _____ *(Name)* _____

We praise and honor our fallen dead brother on
life's field of battle, just as we praised the knights
of past ages, for their strong and faithful defense
of our Christian faith and our beloved order.

Let we, yes we the living, draw up these fallen
swords from battle and lift them up to heaven;
demonstrating to the world that these swords not
only stand for the liberty of mankind but also as
mission crosses for the expansion of our church
and our beloved order, the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus / May Jesus Live

4th Degree Sword Presentation Ceremony Hennepin Province – Northern Ohio District

The Sir Knights designated to make the presentation and those acting as Honor Guards are to be attired in Full Regalia. The Sir Knights, at carry swords, are to be grouped in a semi-circle before the casket. The presenter(s) and the person to whom the sword is to be presented shall stand in the semi-circle.

We are assembled here this evening to pay our last respects and final tribute to a Brother, Sir Knight _____ *name* _____ whose life has been an example of the principles in which our Order strives to impress upon its members in the upbringing of true Catholic manhood and good loyal citizenship.

Our heartfelt and sincere sympathies are extended to his family in the loss of Sir Knight _____ *name* _____. We, his fraternal brothers, also acknowledge the loss of a dear colleague and leader whose example we should all strive to follow in our future lives. His voice is now stilled and his sword, symbolic of patriotism, lies dormant within its sheath.

The principle of the fourth degree is Patriotism, loyalty to God and country. True Patriotism lies in the defense of both church and state. His sword has fallen from his grasp. Take it up, O Christian soldiers; wield it in defense of church and state.

(Presenter, taking up the sword and turning to the recipient)

The sword is a symbol of his membership in the fourth degree Knights of Columbus. Through it, we subscribe to the high principle of Patriotism, the kind of Patriotism that prompts respect to all lawful authority. It also calls for the defense and preservation of the flag of our country and the precepts for which it stands. He, by his membership in our honored order, fostered the practice of unity, the virtue of charity, and brotherly love and, in all relations with his fellow men, exemplified the sublime teachings of Holy Mother Church.

In the name of the Knights of Columbus fourth degree, I entrust his sword to your keeping. May you be inspired to cherish the same high principles for which he stood.

(The command "Present Swords" is given)

Sir Knight _____ *name* _____ we salute you and commend your soul to the mercy of Almighty God.

(The Command "Close order carry & return swords is given)

Recite the Our Father – Hail Mary – Glory Be – Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon him.

Following this the Sir Knights file past the casket and pay respects to the family

Memorial Service Prayer

Worthy brothers and guests

We meet today **(this evening)** to pay proper fraternal tribute to the memory of our brother**(s)** who, in accordance with the will of almighty God, has **(have)** preceded us into eternal life.

We do this, appreciating, as we should, the debt we owe him **(them)** for the legacy of his **(their)** life's work. We also have come to deliberate upon the time when we too shall pay the penalty of mortality.

Considerately, prayerfully, and hopefully then, let us reflect upon those who have gone from our sight, that they may not disappear from our memory and our prayers. We knew them as associates, colleagues, and beloved friends. Now they sleep in God's own consecrated ground, awaiting the judgement day, while the blue dome of heaven, arching over their graves, bears consoling witness of the eternal life into which they have entered.

As we, their brothers and friends, join with the chant of the prayers of our church, let us also, with reverence, listen with charity and loving remembrance while their brothers express once again their merited praise.

This assembly is an outward expression of our love and esteem, our trust and our hope. May the influence of this hour cause us to lay up a treasury of good intentions and kindly deeds that will accrue to our benefit, contribute to our well-being and establish our status with Almighty God, when we too shall respond to the inevitable and final summons.