

Sample 3: Informal Memorial Tribute Ending in a Party

An informal memorial tribute is best presented in a casual setting, such as a beach, forest, library, or backyard. The informal approach is ideal if the deceased was an informal casual person. This type of memorial tribute is often a segue into a celebration of life party.

A. Greeting and Welcome

A general greeting and welcome to the guests is made by the person the family has designated as the host for the memorial tribute. Depending on the format of your memorial tribute and venue, you may introduce two or three people who wish to share memories of the deceased.

B. Sharing Memories

Allow five minutes for each person wishing to share a brief story about their relationship or experience they had with the deceased. These should be humorous or amusing stories that have a positive and upbeat message.

C. Closing Toast to the Deceased

A toast to the deceased may be shared by all with raised glasses. This toast can be made using wine, beer, champagne, or non-alcoholic drinks. If the person was mischievous and enjoyed jokes or pranks, you can recite a limerick or joke that is appropriate. Just make sure it is one that the deceased would have enjoyed.

D. Segue to Celebration of Life Party

The last part of your memorial tribute is to announce there is a celebration of life party. You'll want to provide food and drink as you host live music with an invitation to dance as the deceased would have wanted. Include a live band for this portion of the tribute, even if it is just some friends the deceased used to jam with. Announce to everyone to join in the fun by dancing.