



**POLISH  
FALCONS  
OF AMERICA**

*THE STRONG, FRIENDLY, FAMILY FRATERNAL*

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# **FUNERAL CEREMONY**

# ***The ceremony will be conducted according to the deceased's religious beliefs and the wishes of the family.***

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## **NOTIFICATION**

Upon receiving news of a Member's death, the President of the Polish Falcons Nest contacts the family of the deceased Member to ask if it is acceptable to say prayers and offer condolences. The President then asks the Secretary of the Nest to inform other Nest Members of the death and time of the prayer ritual.

## **FOR THE SERVICES**

The Members gather at the funeral home to offer prayers for his/her soul. Standing at each end, two Falcons will act as Honor Guard at the casket. If present, the Flag Bearers position the American flag on the group's right, the Falcon flag on the group's left.

## **PRESCRIBED DRESS**

It is preferred that Members attending this ceremony wear their Falcon uniforms (*but not required*) including their Legion of Honor ribbon and or pins.

## **THE PRESIDENT OR REPRESENTATIVE LEADS AND RECITES**

O Lord, hear our prayers in which we humbly beseech You for Your divine mercy. Accept into Your hands the soul of your servant\_\_\_\_, whom You have called to his/her eternal reward. We thank You for all the blessings You have bestowed upon \_\_\_\_\_, and for the opportunity of serving together with us as a Falcon/ Falconette during his/her earthly life. We pray that You will accept our deceased Member into the Community of Saints in heaven. We ask this in the Name and through the power of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever, Amen.

## **WE WILL NOW RECITE**

One "Our Father, Hail Mary, and Eternal Rest."

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*Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.*

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*Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus. Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death Amen.*

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*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*





## PRESIDENT OR REPRESENTATIVE

Dearly beloved and bereaved family of our deceased Member \_\_\_\_\_. We offer you our deepest and heartfelt sympathy. We are gathered here to pay our respect to \_\_\_\_\_, and to those he/she held dear. We have prayed that God, Who had given him/her the gift of life, may now bestow on him/her the greater gift of eternal life.

We, in the Falcon organization shall remember his/her services for a long time, especially \_\_\_\_\_. *(Here insert a special contribution or long held office or some other item unique to this individual.)* The Members of Nest \_\_\_\_\_, all Falcons and Falconettes of District \_\_\_\_\_, and Members of the National Board of the Polish Falcons of America join the family in your sorrow at this time, for a Member who was loyal to the highest Falcon ideals and to the principles of democracy of the American and Polish nations. All of us gathered here leave you with a prayer to Almighty God that He reward \_\_\_\_\_, your beloved deceased with eternal memory and may his/her soul rest in eternal peace.

The LORD is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he restores my soul. He leads me beside quiet waters, for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; Your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Amen.

*(Follow with eulogy)*

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## EULOGY

*(Use this or one written by a close friend of the deceased)*

In the name of our Nest and the Polish Falcons of America, we express our deep condolences and sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of our dear Member \_\_\_\_\_. We beseech the Lord to reward him/her with peace and the eternal vision of the Heavenly Light for your labors on earth. Until we meet again.

Condolences are offered to the family. If a Legion of Honor Member, it would be appropriate to present the bible at this time.

**NOTE:** Each Member may now approach the family and offer personal condolences.

## FOR FALCONETTES USE ONLY

Dear bereaved family of the deceased \_\_\_\_\_. We Falconettes of Nest \_\_\_\_\_ of which \_\_\_\_\_ was a Member for many years have gathered here to pay our respect to her and to those she held dear.

We all know she led a faithful and exemplary life as a wife, a Mother, and as a loyal Member of our group in the organization. Her memory will remain with many of us for a long time to come.

Today, we bid her farewell, and pray that God rewards her with eternal peace for her years of toil and faithful service. May her family be comforted to know that the Lord does not take life away from the faithful, He only changes it, for He has prepared an eternal dwelling for her with Himself.

