On December 12, 2009, Coston Funeral Homes, Inc. hosted its *3rd Annual Holiday Service of Remembrance*. The service is held each year to help families who are experiencing difficulty during the holiday season without their loved one. Postcards are mailed to clients from the current year and the past two years. The invitation is also extended to the Pittsburgh community at large.

Families are required to pre-register online or by phone beginning in November. The service begins with an Inspirational Message led by clergy. Next, each name of the deceased is announced while Coston Funeral Homes, Inc. staff assist families to a massive Christmas tree to hang a personalized ornament. Once the ornaments are hung, the owner Roland Criswell will ceremoniously light the tree, and a moment of silence is given in honor of the family members who were lost. A prayer of hope and restoration is given by clergy; followed by Christmas Carols and light refreshments.

Each family is allowed to take the personalized ornament off the tree along with a gift bag filled with 2010 calendars, a candy-filled mug and other promotional gifts from the funeral home.

This year, a new feature was added to the program. As the names of each loved one was announced, a picture of the deceased flashed across our 42 inch flat screen tv's. This new feature was enjoyed by all participants and added a personal touch to the service.

The service continues to grow as more people attend each year. This year's service was filled to capacity and we have considered adding another service for 2010.