

A Sacred Choice Funeral Home, Houston, Texas

A Sacred Choice Funeral Home is a proud founding member of the Twilight Wish Foundation Houston Chapter. We celebrate seniors and make their dreams come true. The application process is very simple and seniors can select from four types of wishes: Simple Needs Wishes, Celebrating a Life Wishes, Living Life to the Fullest Wishes and Veterans' Wishes.

Simple Needs Wishes examples include clothing, lift chairs, hearing aids, or appliances.

Celebrating a Life Wishes are meaningful and nostalgic wishes granted for hospice patients or recipients with limited life expectancies. These wishes can be for family reunions, visits to hometowns, chances to return to a job or career one more time, and any similar wish that validates and brings joy to the recipient.

Living Life to the Fullest Wishes examples include riding on a motorcycle, having a book published, flying in a fighter jet, meeting a celebrity, or going to a ball game.

One-third of all Twilight Wishes granted are for veterans. Veterans' wishes can fall into any of the other three programs but we differentiate this program as it gives us an opportunity to thank veterans, many in nursing homes, for what they have done for others over the years, and show that we remember and care.

We have completed wishes for seniors who wanted to attend the Astros baseball game and provided transportation from home, tickets, parking and memorabilia as well as an opportunity to meet the players.

We have also provided mattresses with the assistance of Texas Mattress Makers. We have many community partners ready to assist us.

Recently we received a wish request for a dinner at Brennan's Houston and a horse drawn carriage ride around Downtown Houston. Snoop Dogg also attended as a cut out version since we were not able to locate his representative. We were able to fulfill this wish and both the carriage ride and meal were covered by our community partners. Our local news also covered the story.

Our upcoming wishes include obtaining hearing aids for one family and a once in a lifetime deep sea fishing trip for a group of veterans that want to come together and catch their last big catch.

We are honored to have seniors place their trust in us and allow us to make their dreams come true. I encourage everyone to start a local Twilight Wish Chapter and partner with other organizations that can provide volunteers to make the wishes happen. It is so rewarding and I cannot stress the impact it is making in everyone's life. We are making the world brighter one wish at a time.

Brunswick Memorial Home, East Brunswick, New Jersey
Mount Sinai Memorial Chapels, East Brunswick, New Jersey

Brunswick Memorial Funeral Home teamed up with East Brunswick Department on Aging to help celebrate their 50th Anniversary. A celebration luncheon occurred on May 30th, 2025 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm at their facility. Sign up was required by members and personal invitations were sent to companies and individuals who supported the department. Some of the distinguished guests included Mayor Brad Cohen, Township Council President Kevin McEvoy, Council Vice President Dana Zimbicki, Business Administrator Joseph Criscuolo, and Economic Development Officer Robert Zuckerman. There were over 100 attendees who Brunswick Memorial Home was privileged to celebrate with.

East Brunswick Department of Aging was established in 1975 and moved into its current building in 1984. Their mission statement reads: To support older adults within a framework of respect as they meet the social, physical, emotional, and financial challenges of aging by providing services and programs that promote independence. The luncheon provided an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of the department and thank those who have played a role in its growth. The department provides hundreds of seniors with the support they need and they add lots of fun and smiles to their lives.

Planning for this event started months prior. Several Care Team members assisted with the planning of food, presentation, decorations, invite lists, and additional logistics. In addition, Brunswick Memorial Home donated all the floral center pieces for the event. A video was created and played during the luncheon that included clips of past member events, interviews of staff members, interviews of current members, and historical events for the department. The video took several months to create. The food was catered by a local establishment and was served buffet style. There was more than enough for a second helping, which many attendees helped themselves to. The collaboration of all those involved was needed to insure a successful event.

The event was a huge success. The seniors in attendance had an amazing time, and some had tears of joy in their eyes as they watched the presentation. The staff was proud of the success of department and excited to continue its mission of supporting older adults in the community. Brunswick Memorial Home was honored to be a part of the event and of the community they serve. They look forward to the next 50 years!

Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home, Covington, Georgia

“Birthday Cake Program” – A Community Connection Initiative

At Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home, we are committed not only to supporting families during their most difficult times, but also to being a pillar of warmth, comfort, and connection throughout the community. In 2025, we started a program where a member of our funeral home staff brings cake and ice cream to the local senior center once a month to honor all the birthdays that occurred during that month. While simple in execution, the impact of this initiative has been profoundly meaningful.

Rationale Behind the Program

Loneliness among the elderly is a growing concern in America. Social isolation is associated with increased risks of heart disease, depression, and cognitive decline among older adults. Furthermore, birthdays can be especially difficult for seniors who may have lost loved ones or who no longer have family nearby to celebrate with them. Recognizing this, we saw an opportunity to bring a little joy and companionship to our local seniors in a way that honors our mission: to celebrate life and serve with compassion.

Program Description

On the first Wednesday of each month, a representative from our funeral home visits the senior center with birthday cake, ice cream, and a few small decorations. We join the residents for a birthday party, sing songs, share stories, and take time to listen. This isn't just a delivery, it's a full participation in their lives, if only for an afternoon.

Benefits to Our Funeral Home and Staff

It gives our staff a sense of fulfillment and balance, allowing them to serve in a joyful, rather than sorrowful, capacity. It's also enhanced our visibility in the community, allowing people to see us not only as caretakers in times of loss, but as neighbors who truly care.

Benefits to Families and the Community

The monthly birthday celebration brings life, laughter, and love to the senior center. For many residents, it's a highlight of their month. It gives them a sense of being remembered and appreciated. Several have said it helps reduce their feelings of isolation. Family members report that their loved ones are noticeably uplifted afterward. The center staff have told us it fosters a greater sense of community among residents.

Community Partnerships

This initiative is a collaborative effort with the senior center, whose staff assist in identifying monthly birthdays and coordinating the event space. The funeral home supplies all the treats, decorations, and volunteer time. Together, we ensure the celebrations are seamless and inclusive.

Conclusion

“Birthday Cake Program” is more than just a birthday party, it's a reaffirmation of our funeral home's belief that every life matters, every story is worth honoring, and community is built not just in grief, but in joy. This simple act of kindness has become one of the most powerful ways we support our mission and our neighbors.