

Feeney Funeral Home, Ridgewood, NJ

Joie de Vie. An Homage to a Life Well Lived

This innovative and unique concept is meant to pay tribute and honor a family member or friend that is ailing, aged, or infirmed. There are two parts to the “Joie de Vie” concept: the “It’s My Day!” Celebration and the “Legacy Remembrance” gathering. The idea for the first portion, the “It’s My Day!” party, is that the honoree is able to attend the celebration to experience all the love and joy that their family and friends have for them. They will be able to hear stories and memories, and share their own, about their life. The second portion, the “Legacy Remembrance” gathering, happens after the honoree has died, and is a continuation of the celebration of their life

Part 1: “It’s My Day!” Party

The “It’s My Day!” party, which can be held at Feeney Funeral Home or a location of the honoree’s choice, will be a most emotional, inspiring, and rewarding experience for all in attendance, especially the honoree!

When a date for the event is agreed upon, our staff will send out the invitations. At the same time, several weeks before the “It’s My Day!” event occurs, our trained staff will help the family and friends gather photographs, testimonial letters, and stories from friends and relations both far and near. It is compiled by professional into a gift set called BOOM BOX.

The BOOM BOX will be read at “It’s My Day!” In addition, party favors representing an important part of the honoree’s life will be handed out. Our staff will be taking photographs during the party, and there will be a videographer present in another room. The videographer will be asking participants questions about the honoree in an informal interviewing style. This will help to create a video filled with stories and memories of the honoree for their family and friends to cherish for years to come.

Our staff can also concierge food for the “It’s My Day!” party if the honoree and family so desire. Feeney Funeral Home has a close working relationship with local caterers. The staff will plan food and beverage selections with the family, and our staff will also serve as attendance to facilitate the distribution of food and drink to guests.

The event will be completely personalized and designed to bring joy to the honoree based on their hobbies and interests. For example, if the honoree is a Star Wars fan, then guests might be requested to dress as their favorite character. Also, the décor and favors will reflect the personality and interests of the honoree. At the end of the day, the “It’s My Day!” honoree will feel all the love that those in attendance have for him or her.

Of course, the family will be given the BOOM BOX and any remaining party favors, as well as a photo book that will be created several days after the event. This book will include all of the photos taken at the event by Feeney Funeral Home’s in-house photographer.

The Legacy Remembrance

Similar to a Memorial Service, the “Legacy Remembrance” is an event of remembering, honoring, sharing, and loving. This is the service that will be held after the honoree has passed. During the remembrance, we will play the Testimonial Video that was created during the “It’s My Day!” celebration. We will also hold a Community Eulogy, coordinated by our staff, where attendees share some stories and memories about the deceased. Of course, selected photos and quotes from the BOOM BOX will be available for all to see, and perhaps even read aloud to the attendees by our staff.

Our Life Celebration materials will be displayed, and the keepsake Life Celebration items out to all the attendance. These Life Celebration materials include personalized photo cards, banners, and collages made from photos of the deceased provided by their family and friends. We will also hand out another remembrance items, similar to the “party favor” given out at the “It’s My Day!” party, only this time it will represent a different important aspect of the life of the deceased.

Throughout the event, our staff photographer will once again be taking photos which will be made into a book given to the family at a later dated.

With the combination of the “It’s My Day!” party and the “Legacy Remembrance, it will be a fitting tribute to the “Joie de Vie” of a person’s loved one.