

The Unitarian Society of Hartford

50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105

(860) 233-9897 ~ [www.USHartford.org](http://www.USHartford.org)

Interim Minister Terry Cummings

**Thoughtful Endings: Planning Document in the Event of My Death**

*This document provides you with an opportunity to organize your thoughts, records and practical information related to a serious illness and death. Doing so is a gift that you give to those who care about you and may provide you with the peace of mind that comes from “having things in order.” (It’s also ok to partially fill this out- some is better than none!)*

*The form is confidential and should be returned to the Co-Ministers. We encourage you to also make copies and share this with your family and others with whom you are close.*

*PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE*

**Today’s Date:**

**Member**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Contact**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Secondary Contact** :

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I. End of Life Planning & Wishes**

**I have completed the following:**

**\_\_\_ Medical Durable Power of Attorney**

Decision maker/agents: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*These individuals, chosen to speak for you, should have copies of all health care documents. This document allows space for instructions for your agent. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT DOCUMENT.*

**\_\_\_Advance Directive for Surgical/Medical Treatment (Living Will)**

*\*Provides more specific guidance about what you would want under certain circumstances.*

**\_\_\_ Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Directive (CPR)**

*\*Must be signed by you or your agent and your physician and should be displayed in your home and offered to emergency medical personnel and staff in a care facility*

\_\_\_ **Will**

My personal papers (will, etc.) are located in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*\* It is recommended that you inform family about the name of your attorney, location of your Will and Power of Attorney/Personal Representative. Whomever is going to be handling your financial matters after your death, should have a copy of or know where to locate passwords for your computer and for your accounts.\*\**

**Other documents you may wish to consider:**

**\_\_\_ Five Wishes (available from the ministers or online)**

**\_\_\_ Legacy Letter/Ethical Will** *(You might find great satisfaction in creating a document that embodies your life values; something that can be passed on to future generations.)*

**II. Obituary Preparation**

**Person in Charge: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relatives, friends, organizations, or out of town papers to be notified:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Donations should be directed to the following: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*You may wish to write your own obituary so that it reflects what you would like to world to know about the life you have lived. It can be done at any time but it is wise to entrust someone with the responsibility of updating it at the time of your death.*

*(see Part V for further prompts)*

**III. Disposition of Body**

**\_\_\_ Traditional Burial**

Preferred funeral director Name & Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Preferences for casket & cost range for services \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Graveside Service: Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Burial  
Cemetery (name, town, state) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Designated Burial Site:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Deed to this lot is located\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Lot registered in name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grave marker to read\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_\_ Cremation**

Cremation  
Funeral Home or Cremation Society \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cremation \_\_\_\_ Prior to service \_\_\_\_\_\_ After service

Designated Recipient of Cremains: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( )\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ashes are to be scattered or kept at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *(If cemetery, fill in items above. If USH Memorial Garden,* [see info on our website](http://www.ushartford.com/members/in-the-event-of-death/memorial-services/)*) [oops, no link]*

**\_\_\_\_ Medical Donation**

\_\_\_I wish to donate (part of) my body to science. Specify parts of body and/or organization to receive remains: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A copy of the instrument of donation is located at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Memorial Service**

**Location:** \_\_\_ USH \_\_\_ Funeral home \_\_\_Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**To be conducted by:** \_\_\_ Minister of USH \_\_\_Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\* For your financial planning purposes, there is no fee for ministers to conduct a memorial service for members of USH. The standard fee (in 2016) to hire our accompanist is $200, with an additional $75-100 if the choir or other more complex elements are involved.*

**Participating Organizations:**

Military\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fraternal\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Service content:**

General style or theology of service (e.g. theistic, humanistic, Jewish, Christian)

Suggested readings:

Suggested speakers for testimonials:

Suggested music & hymns:

Suggested Ushers (or Pallbearers, if relevant):

**Following the service, I prefer a reception with refreshments and food to be served:**

\_\_\_ At USH \_\_\_At my home \_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*Most of our members choose not to hold visiting hours or viewing of the casket, however, that is an option. If you wish to have either, please note that here:*

**V. Information for Obituary & Eulogy**

**Full Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Nicknames or family names \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date & place of birth\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Please attach a biographical sketch of yourself including major events and significant people in your life, career or occupation, major interests and hobbies, and general concerns. Here are some prompts to consider sharing (please attach additional sheets as necessary)*

**1. Name/s of Spouse or Partner (even if divorced or deceased):**

Date of Marriage/s (and divorce/death if applicable):

Key characteristics or memories of your relationship/s

**2. Children: Names & birthdates**

Key characteristics or memories of your relationship

**3. Parents’ Names:**

Living or Deceased? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Key characteristics or memories of your relationship

**3. Other Family & Friends:**

Full names siblings & other important people and whether they are living or deceased and where they live/d**;** Key characteristics or memories of your relationship

**4. Family stories: key anecdotes or dates**

**5. Relationship to USH:** When did you get involved at USH? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What have you been involved in? Key memories or contributions?

**6. Spirituality:** How do you describe your spirituality, theology, beliefs, and deepest values?

**7. Proudest Accomplishments, Awards, Publications, Achievements**

**8. Education:** Degrees (title, school, date), interests

9**. Career – What jobs have you held? (include approximate dates if possible)**

Please include current job, and military branch, unit number, and serial number if applicable

**9. Service:** Organizations or club membership (non-profits, sororities, civic clubs, etc.)

**10. Hobbies & other pursuits**

**VI. These are my wishes and directives.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Member Signature / Date**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(unrelated) Witness Signature / Date**

*Remember, you can update and revise this at any time!*

*Please return this to the Ministers,*

*and let us know if you have questions or would like to talk about it further.*

**Received by minister:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature / Date**

*Let us know of any comments, errors, and corrections – thanks!*

*Revised January, 2022*

Email: firstunitarian@ushartford.org ~ Website: [www.USHartford.org](http://www.USHartford.org)

A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of America