

Memorial Capstone Project Idea #2

Clothing Keepsake



This project will ensure that the difficult task of going through a loved one's belongings has a silver lining. Once the funeral and initial sadness is over and families have to decide what to do with their loved one's belongings, the grieving process can become overwhelming. Creating a clothing keepsake that they can cherish will give this task a sentimental purpose.

Checklist:

- Piece of clothing or multiple pieces of clothing from family
- Sewing machine, if doing yourself
- Contact information for an individual or company who can make clothing keepsakes (we recommend looking at Etsy)

Project Steps & Timeline:

1. Establish a point of contact with the family you will be helping, and ask them to provide a range of their loved one's favorite clothing. Make sure that these are items that they are okay to part with for the time being and won't mind them being altered to become a keepsake.
2. There are many different ideas of what to make, so browse Etsy and have some ideas ready. Some of these require specific types of clothing (such as a tie blanket or a t-shirt pillow) so it is best to ask the family what piece of clothing will be best before selecting a product.
3. Once you receive the clothing pieces, browse Etsy or other websites to get ideas of what kind of keepsake item will work best.
4. If working with an outside partner, contact them and relay your questions before sending the clothing to them to use.
5. If making yourself, prepare by buying sewing supplies or other materials that you may need. Then, create or find a pattern, and sew the final product.
6. Once it is complete, ship the keepsake back to the family with a heartfelt note from you.

Best Practices:

- Be very careful when handling the clothing, and make sure that you trust that they will be taken care of in the hands of anyone else you ask to help.
- Make sure the keepsake is practical and will last.

Reminders:

- While we want to share the story of the family you are supporting to help inspire others to donate, we also want to respect their privacy, so no posting photos or details unless they give us permission to do so

Requirements for Project Completion

- Document your completion of the project with photos and a copy of the final product.
- Write a short reflection answering the following questions:
 - How do you feel this project affected the family or individual you helped?
 - How did the project help you?
 - What advice would you give to other people who are comforting a bereaved family/individual?
- Submit both your evidence and reflection on Google Classroom in the "Capstone Project: Final" assignment before the due date