

# THE MEMORIAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146

November, (1980)

(617) 731-2073  
(24-hr. answering service)

Dear Member:

This year, we are launching a program of improved services which will benefit all members of The Memorial Society of New England.

To make it easier for you to pre-plan, we are enlisting cooperating funeral directors across the state who are willing to provide you with printed price information. This will enable you to "comparison shop" by mail.

For those of you who already have your written plan on file with us, we will not only provide your family with the name of your chosen funeral director and plan, but if your spouse or next-of-kin desires, we will call your funeral director at the time of need. This may relieve your family of an unnecessary burden.

In order to establish these new services we need initial funding from you. Your contributions are needed to help make our internal operation more effective for your benefit. Please be as generous as you can.

To continue to keep your membership record on file and up-to-date and to sustain our new services as well as continue those services which you have enjoyed in the past such as the 24 hour answering service, access to the latest funeral information, referral and counseling, we are asking for voluntary dues from each member.

Your dues can be paid in several ways. The cost is only \$5.00 per year for each member. For those of you who can give more, the cost of being a Contributing member is \$10.00 per year. Or, for five year Contributing members the cost is \$50.00.

Please send your contribution to develop new services AND your voluntary membership dues to The Memorial Society of New England (at the above address) as soon as possible. In advance, thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,

*George Richardson* (d)

George Richardson, M.D.  
President

ANNUAL MEETING: HOW THE MEMORIAL SOCIETY RESPONDS TO CONSUMER NEEDS

DATE: December 6, 1980. Saturday.

TIME: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

PLACE: Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA.

PARKING: On side streets or in the lot adjacent to the church.

(The church is on the corner of Monmouth and Carlton Streets, one block north of Beacon Street. Carlton Street intersects Beacon Street two blocks west of Park Street. By MBTA, take the Beacon Street Green Line and exit at Carlton Street).

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS MEETING.....2:00 - 2:30 PM

GENERAL SESSION.....2:30 - 3:00 PM

Doranne Jung, former director of the Consumer Funeral Information Project and now MSNE public relations coordinator, will present the work of the Project and outline this year's activities. Discussion of ways to promote the new services of MSNE will take place in the following groups sessions.

GROUP SESSIONS.....3:00 - 3:45 PM

HOW TO MAKE PRE-PLANNING EASIER: MSNE is the only organization exclusively concerned with helping people plan funerals. To encourage more people to plan, MSNE needs to enlist as many "cooperating" funeral directors as possible. The ones that have already agreed to cooperate with MSNE by providing price lists will be announced at the meeting.

HOW TO REACH PEOPLE WHO WILL JOIN MSNE: A program of workshops conducted throughout the state is needed to encourage more people to pre-plan with MSNE. The following are already planned:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Jan. 11	7:00 PM	Murray Universalist Unitarian Church 505 North Main Street Attleboro, MA (phone: 222-0505)
Jan. 12	10:00 AM	New England Eye Bank 243 Charles Street Second floor Boston, MA (phone: 523-7900)
Jan. 19	1:45 PM	Chelsea Senior Drop In Center 80 Washington Avenue Chelsea, MA (phone: 889-2520)
Jan. 28	8:00 PM	Sudbury United Methodist Church 251 Old Sudbury Road Sudbury, MA (phone: 443-6785)
Feb. 16	7:30 PM	Massachusetts Hospice, Inc. (workshop to be held at the Chelsea Senior Drop In Cen- ter, see above for address)

You are invited to attend these workshops. Due to possible inclement weather, please call to confirm dates and times.

PLEASE COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING with ideas and a commitment to help. Refreshments will be served. The meeting is open to the general public. PLEASE BRING A FRIEND.

NEW MATERIALS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR CLERGY, LAWYERS, CARE PROVIDERS

These packets of materials are available from Continental Association of Funeral and Memorial Societies (1828 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036):

- A MULTITUDE OF VOICES, FUNERALS AND THE CLERGY (\$1): Materials for clergy of all faiths, including a booklet with funeral information, activities for the congregation and a sample insert for bulletins, a planning guide, a directory and display poster.
- HELPING (50¢): For health professionals, counselors, and care providers, this is a pamphlet with tips on how to talk to people about their concerns, a guide to funeral planning, a directory and a display poster.
- WHERE THERE'S A WILL (50¢): A booklet with basic information on advising clients to make pre-death arrangements, basic planning guide and directory for lawyers and advisors whose clients want help with wills or estates.

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ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

The first half hour of the Annual Meeting, December 6th, Saturday, 2 - 4 PM, will include the election of new officers as follows:

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE:

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. Francis Caswell     | Mr. A. Leavitt Taylor |
| Rev. T. Ewell Hopkins    | Mr. Edwin F. Taylor   |
| Rev. Robert McEwen       | Rabbi Frank Waldorf   |
| Dr. George S. Richardson |                       |

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT: Edwin F. Taylor

If you will be unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote by the proxy below, and send it to The Memorial Society of New England, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA 02146.

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PROXY: I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ (must be a member or the Clerk of the Society (if no name is filled in, the Clerk will vote the Proxy) to vote my proxy for:

- a. The slate of officers and directors as proposed YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Such matters as may lawfully come before the meeting YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: The Memorial Society, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA 02146

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE REVEALS WAYS YOU CAN HELP

In response to the Spring newsletter, over 500 members returned completed questionnaires. Here is a summary of those returned:

---The "average" member joined 6 years ago while in the mid-50 to early-60 age range. The average age is 64.

---Over 25% of those who responded are in professions such as health, education, clergy or law. Another significant percent are in skilled or technical professions.

---Most members use media only for news, information or special programs.

---Over 30% heard about MSNE and joined as a result of talking to a friend, relative or from attending a church related function.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP...

Those members who said that they would volunteer to help are now being contacted by phone or mail. PLEASE BE PATIENT. THANK YOU.

For those of you who did not volunteer to help in the Spring, but would like to now, the membership profile points out ways you can promote MSNE and help increase membership:

. MSNE has speakers who will conduct workshops for any church, synagogue, club, class or organization. Can you arrange a date for one with a group to which you belong?

. Is there a group of people with whom you work that would be interested in MSNE? Do you come in contact with people during the course of your work who would benefit from knowing about MSNE?

. Do you know of anyone who has not joined MSNE and who would be open to learning about our purpose and services from you?

. Will you bring a friend to the Annual Meeting?

If you have answered "YES" to any of these questions, you can help. Please do whatever you can to spread the word about MSNE and the importance of pre-planning. The staff is available to assist you in anyway.

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Enclosed is my check for a contribution to initiate new services that will benefit all members as described in the letter from Dr. Richardson,

for \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ over \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

and for my voluntary membership dues as a

regular member \$5.00 \_\_\_\_\_; a Contributing member \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_;

a five year Contributing member \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP: