

Burial Service

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)
- Meditation on the Place of the Way
- Taking Refuge in the Three Treasures
- Invocation

We put our faith in

The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;

The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;

The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;

The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast Practice;

The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-mahasattvas;

Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;

Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;

Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;

The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;

And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

May you all be present among us and know our deep devotion.

The bereaved members of the [*family name*] family, of the [*chapter name*] Chapter, [*Dharma center name*] and their relatives have gathered with members of the Sangha to solemnly conduct this burial service for [*posthumous name/ secular name*].

We earnestly pray for guidance in all things through the profound, sublime meaning of the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous Dharma.

(Strike the gong and recite the O-daimoku once.)

- Opening Verse
- Sutra Recitation (*Chapters 2 and 16 from the Kyoten*)
- Universal Transfer of Merit
- Recitation of the O-daimoku
- Transfer of Merit

Having respectfully recited the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous
Dharma, may we transfer its merits to and thus reciprocate the boundless compassion of
The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;
The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;
The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;
The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast
Practice;
The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-
mahasattvas;
Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;
Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;
Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;
The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;
The guardian spirits of [*Dharma center name*];
The guardian spirits of the [*family name*] family;
The guardian spirits of member families of Rissho Kosei-kai;
And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

(Strike the gong once.)

Now, all of us—the bereaved members of the [*family name*] family, their relatives, and Sangha
members—have sincerely recited the sutra and expressed gratitude for the Buddha’s arrangement
of this burial service for [*posthumous name/ secular name*].

We reverently pray that through this sutra recitation
[*Posthumous name/ Secular name*] (*Recite it twice*)
as well as all ancestors of the [*family name*] family
may delight in the taste of the Dharma and quickly accomplish the great fruit of Supreme Perfect
Awakening in the eternal tranquility of the wondrous land of nirvana.

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)