

***Widows Not Forgotten Program
(K of C) St. Thomas Aquinas
Council 3023***



Agenda

Introduction
3

WNF Program Purpose
4

Support Available
5,6

Program Roles
7, 8, 9,10, 11, 12

Events Included
13, 14, 15, 16, 17



Agenda

***Examples Of Assistance 2025
19***

***Thank You
20***

***Questions
22***

***Appendix
23***

The Knights of Columbus: A Legacy of Compassion from the very beginning.

The **Knights of Columbus** was founded with a mission to support **widows and orphans**. Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest serving an immigrant community, witnessed firsthand the hardship a family faced when the primary breadwinner passed away. After losing his own father, he had to pause his seminary studies to care for his family—an experience that shaped his vision for the Order. This legacy continues today. As a council, we believe it's our duty to **prioritize the care and support of widows** within our own parish. Here's how we can live out that mission:



Program Purpose:

The Knights of Columbus Council 3023 "Widows Not Forgotten" program. Our committee will adopt Widows from council 3023. The committee will offer support, social contact, and practical assistance like transportation or manual labor as needed or requested. To make widows feel remembered and valued, Knights of Columbus can offer consistent support, active listening, and practical help. The program aims to provide widows with support after the loss of their spouse, aligning with the Knights' commitment to caring for the families of members.

Program Funding:

We are requesting 1,000.00 dollars be dedicated to the funding of this program in the 2025/26 fraternal year.

Support To Be Available

Funeral Arrangements:

- Knights may assist in making funeral arrangements and completing necessary paperwork like insurance claims, Social Security forms, and other relevant documentation
- Arrange for 4th Degree Presence if requested
- Widows may be eligible for financial benefits through the Fraternal Benefit program, including continued coverage under the member's or spouse's plan. They may also have the option to purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance, or annuities. *Normally the KofC Insurance Agent would assist with the items above if the deceased Knight is an insurance member.*
- *We would also like to explore setting up a fund that can be used if financial assistance is needed for the deceased members funeral/burial.*

Support To Be Available

Check-ins:

- Regularly call or visit, offering a simple "hello"
- Be proactive and offer concrete assistance, such as:
- Yard work (mowing, raking, snow removal)
- Cleaning (house cleaning, errands)
- Errands (shopping, picking up prescriptions)

Acknowledge Important Dates:

- Call or send a card on birthdays, or other significant dates
- The Knights sponsor a Mass once a year for the deceased

Program Roles (Chairman)

Responsibilities:

All requests for assistance from widows should be directed to the Chairman who will delegate to the proper resources.

Secure budget line item for the support of this program

Note: I believe this should be the GK.

Program Roles (Communication Director)

Responsibilities:

- Send initial communication/information gathering letter
- *(See Sample Information Gathering Letter)*
- Provide complimentary tickets to dinners and future events.
- Create a form to gather all the required information.
- Maintain widow information on a spreadsheet
- Create and maintain a widow specific e-mail distribution list

Program Roles (Communication Director)

Responsibilities:

- Send info gathering packets and council activity invitations
- Send birthday cards to widows signed by council members
- Set up a Mass once a year for the deceased member
- Maintain Widow list with a spreadsheet
- Maintain an Email distribution list for Widows
- Maintain an Email distribution list for committee members
- Maintain a list of committee members via a spreadsheet

Program Roles (Event Coordinator)

Responsibilities:

Coordinate with committee members to accomplish requested tasks i.e. (Project Manager).

Coordinate with committee members to buy and deliver Christmas Flowers to widows.

Program Roles (Committee Members)

Responsibilities:

Be available to assist the Chairman, Communication Director, and Event Coordinator as requested.

Note: The Chairman, Communication Director, and Event Coordinator will require back up/alternate members in case we lose the Primary.

Showing Genuine Care:

Personalized Approach: Get to know the widow individually and tailor your support to her specific needs and preferences

Be Authentic and Genuine: Avoid being overly formal or rehearsed in your interactions. Follow Through: If you offer to help with something, make sure to follow through and deliver.

Community and Communication:

Knights often maintain contact with widows and their families, keeping them informed about council activities and providing ongoing support. The initial communication package will include tickets to the fish fry's and St. Patrick's day dinner.

Widows attending our events will never sit alone.



Christmas Package Delivered to Widows

Includes:

- 6 Fish Fry meal vouchers
- 1 St Patrick's Day party voucher
- 1 Large Poinsettia
- 1 Large Gift Bag/Cookies/Candies/Candles
- Information Gathering Sheet
- Christmas Card signed by each Knight



Lenten Fish Fry Dinner Ticket

Date _____

Receiver _____

GK _____

Saint Patrick's day

Dinner

Ticket



Date _____

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Receiver _____ GK _____



Christmas Package Delivered To Widows:



Examples of assistance given in 2025

- Several Knights closed a Pool upon request
- Knights repaired a broken furnace
- Upon a widows request 2 Knights collected several boxes of hazardous waste and disposed at the towns yearly hazardous waste drop off day
- Widow requested assistance with a homeowners insurance claim for a leak. 2 Knights consulted with the widow, the Insurance adjuster, and contractor on a homeowner claim for a water leak



Thank You

DON BROWN

DD#4

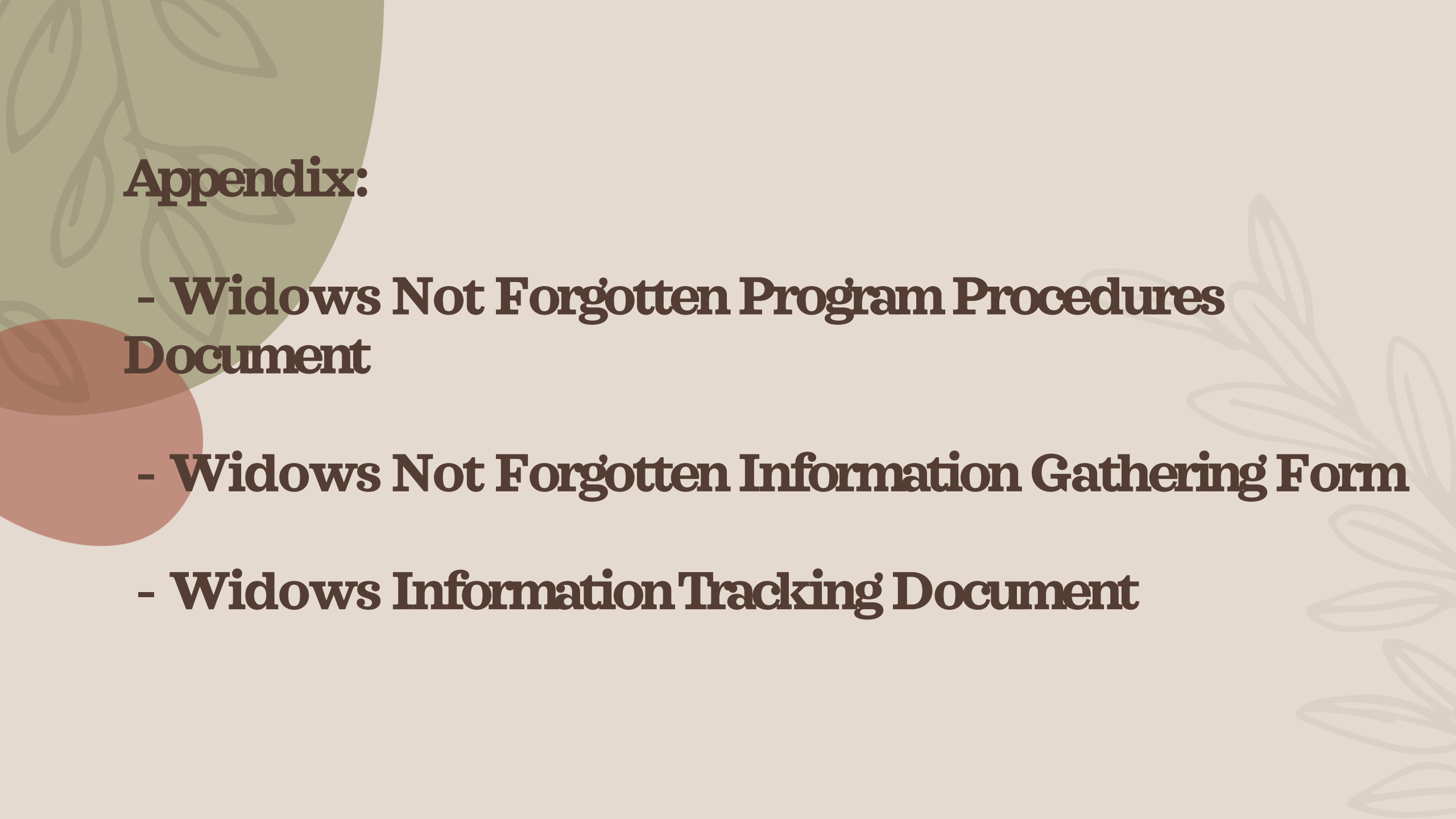
K OF C NH STATE COUNCIL

donkofc3023@comcast.net



.

Questions:



Appendix:

- Widows Not Forgotten Program Procedures Document**
- Widows Not Forgotten Information Gathering Form**
- Widows Information Tracking Document**

Name	Role	Phone Number	Email Address
Angelo Petrazziello	Chairman	603-361-0762	adpetruzz22@gmail.com
Don Brown	Communication Director	603-490-4403	donkofc3023@comcast.net
Aaron Sturup	Alternate Communication Director	603-818-7653	sturupa@icloud.com
Mike Miloro	Event Coordinator	603-553-2096	mikemiloro11@gmail.com
Open Position	Alternate Event Coordinator		
Open Position	AAW Fund Raiser Coordinatir		
Tom McManas	Committee Member	603-475-0858	tmcmanas@benchmark-office.com
Craig Gilbert	Committee Member	603-505-7799	wxwise1@gmail.com
Paul Ford	Committee Member	603-505-0463	pford5@comcast.net
Glenn Cabana	Committee Member	603-490-6394	gecabana@comcast.net
Rob Mandeville	Committee Member	603-548-8417	remande@comcast.net
Tyler Boutot	Committee Member	603-339-7115	tboutot@gmail.com
Fr.Victor	Committee Member	603-432-5000	frvictor@strhomasderry.org
Jay Stone	Committee Member	603-432-0073	stoneyjwe@gmail.com
Steve Shaffer	Committee Member	801-682-6839	patssb362802@yahoo.com
Nick Ferro	Committee Member	603-305-2157	nickferro@gmail.com
Steve Gruchot	Committee Member	603-540-5780	sguchot@gmail.com
Shawn Ryan	Committee Member	603-845-9157	shawnmryan@yahoo.com
Lenny Macneil	Committee Member	603-817-2250	lmn815766@gmail.com
Jack Gallagher	Committee Member	603-434-4112	jackgal03@gmail.com
Joe Decollibus	Committee Member	603-553-9691	jdecollibus@hotmail.com
Aaron Sturup	Committee Member	603-818-7653	sturupa@icloud.com
Jim Monteiro	Committee Member	603-860-3674	jamesmonteiro603@gmail.com
John Moriaty	Committee Member	603-505-7498	
Dick Laplume	Committee Member	603-490-0300	

<i>Widow Name</i>	<i>Peg Fox</i>	<i>Anne McCullan</i>	<i>Pat Rizkellah</i>	<i>Ellen Gautreau</i>	<i>Rosemary Churchill</i>	<i>Kathy Schieb</i>	<i>Bev O'Donall</i>	<i>Christine Remington</i>
Opted out of program Y/N						Passed Away		
Address	11 Wallace Circle, Londonderry, NH	98 Chester Rd, Derry, NH	8 Gervaise Dr. Derry, NH	18A Sunnysidse Lane, Derry NH.	83 Pinyon Place Derry NH 03038	Beaver Lake Lodge (Glenn)	Nursing Home Londonderry	
Phone Number	603-434-2388	603-434-8599	603-434-5220	781-864-4253	(603) 321-4112			
EMAIL Address	margaret_fox@hotmail.com							
Invited to Deceased Member Mass Y/N								
Christmas Flowers Delivered Y/N								
Yearly Mass Card Sent Y/N								

Information Gathering Form

Dear Rosemary;

First and foremost, please accept our deepest condolences on your loss. At this difficult time, know that you are not alone. The **Knights of Columbus of Saint Thomas Aquinas Parish** are here to walk alongside you, offering support, compassion, and care—just as our founder, Father Michael McGivney, envisioned when he began this ministry of service to widows and families. ***Please provide the information requested below and return this complete form to Knights of Columbus P.O. Box 867 Derry N.H. 03038-0867. Please see the list of additional services on page 2 and 3.***

Personal Information		
Name/Address		
Phone Number		
Email Address		
Do you need assistance with any of the following:	Yes/No	Notes:
Name/Address		
Phone Number		
Email Address		
What is your Birthday Month and Day?		
Would you like to receive a Poinsettia or Flowers from the Knights at Christmas time. Which would you prefer?		
Do you need assistance with yard work or house maintenance? The Knights can help and recommend providers for a longer-term solution.		
Was your husband a Knights of Columbus Insurance member or a annuity holder. Do you need to speak with the insurance agent regarding financial advice?		
Do you need support in organizing or donating your late husband's belongings?		
Are you considering moving, and do you need help with the transition?		
Do you drive, or will you need transportation for errands and appointments?		
Would it be ok for the Knights to set up a yearly Mass for your husband? If so, what month would you like to have it?		
Please any other assistance needed.		
Do you need communion visits		
<i>Would you like to opt out of this program?</i>		

Information Gathering Form

Bereavement & Grief Support

Home Health & Hospice Care – Merrimack, NH

Offers free adult grief support groups, including “Journey Through Grief.”

 603-882-2941 |  www.hhhc.org

Visiting Nurse Association – Manchester & Southern NH

Provides 8-week adult bereavement groups, offered throughout the year.

 603-622-3781

Elliot Hospital – Manchester, NH

Grief support for various types of loss. Includes TEARS (pregnancy & infant loss).

 www.elliethospital.org

Dartmouth Health (Statewide)

Virtual and in-person support groups for bereavement.

 603-352-2253 |  jeverest@HCSservices.org |  www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org

Catholic Charities NH – Virtual Bereavement Support

Faith-based virtual grief support group: “Experiencing Loss, Being Lost, and Finding Your Way Again.”

 www.cc-nh.org

Modern Widows Club – Southern NH Chapter

Connect with other widows for encouragement, empowerment, and sisterhood.

 www.modernwidowsclub.org

Parkland Medical Center – Derry, NH

Local support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

 www.peabodyfuneralhome.com

Information Gathering Form

Practical Support Services

Granite VNA – Concord, NH

Provides comfort care and spiritual support through hospice services.

 www.findhelp.org

NAMI New Hampshire

Support groups for those who have lost loved ones to suicide.

 800-242-6264 |  info@NAMINH.org |  www.naminh.org

Davis Funeral Homes – Nashua, NH

Local grief resources and links to counseling services.

 www.davisfuneralhomenh.com

Online & Virtual Resources

Psychology Today – NH Grief Support Listings

A directory of support groups across NH, including virtual and in-person.

 www.psychologytoday.com

Not Forgotten Program Procedures Document

The Knights of Columbus: A Legacy of Compassion

From the very beginning, the **Knights of Columbus** was founded with a mission to support **widows and orphans**. Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest serving an immigrant community, witnessed firsthand the hardship a family faced when the primary breadwinner passed away. After losing his own father, he had to pause his seminary studies to care for his family—an experience that shaped his vision for the Order. This legacy continues today. As a council, we believe it's our duty to **prioritize the care and support of widows** within our own parish. Here's how we can live out that mission:

The Knights of Columbus Council 3023 "[Widows Not Forgotten](#)" program. Our committee will adopt Widows from council 3023. The committee will offer support, social contact, and practical assistance like transportation or manual labor as needed or requested. To make widows feel remembered and valued, Knights of Columbus can offer consistent support, active listening, and practical help.

Purpose:

- The program aims to provide widows with support after the loss of their spouse, aligning with the Knights' commitment to caring for the families of members

Support to be available:

Funeral Arrangements:

- Knights may assist in making funeral arrangements and completing necessary paperwork like insurance claims, Social Security forms, and other relevant documentation
- Arrange for 4th Degree Presence if requested
- Widows may be eligible for financial benefits through the Fraternal Benefit program, including continued coverage under the member's or spouse's plan. They may also have the option to purchase life insurance, long-term care insurance, or annuities. *Normally the K of C Insurance Agent would assist with the items above if the deceased Knight is an insurance member*

Send Out Information Gathering Form (2 – 4 weeks after Funeral):

- Send out information gathering packets with tickets to council events once a year.
- Be proactive and offer concrete assistance, such as:
 - Yard work (mowing, raking, snow removal)
 - Cleaning (house cleaning, errands)
 - Errands (shopping, picking up prescriptions)

Acknowledge Important Dates:

- Call or send a card on birthdays, or other significant dates to show they are remembered
- The Knights sponsor a Mass once a year for the deceased Knight, card to be sent to the Widow

Not Forgotten Program Procedures Document”

Community and Communication:

- Knights often maintain contact with widows and their families, keeping them informed about council activities and providing ongoing support

Showing Genuine Care:

- Personalized Approach: Get to know the widow individually and tailor your support to her specific needs and preferences
- Follow Through: If you offer to help with something, make sure to follow through and deliver

Required Committee Directors and Roles:

Chairman:

Responsibilities:

- All requests for assistance from widows should be directed to the Chairman who will delegate to the proper resources.
- Secure budget line item for the support of this program
- *This should be assigned to the current grand knight*

Communication Director:

Responsibilities:

- Send initial information gathering packet (to be sent 2 to 4 weeks after member death)
- Provide complimentary tickets to dinners and future events like the fish fry, St. Patrick's day dinner, etc,
- Maintain widow information on a spreadsheet
- Maintain committee spreadsheet and e-mail distribution list
- Create and maintain a widow specific e-mail distribution list
- Send an initial email making the widows aware of this program
- Send emails to widows as (BCC) with all relevant council activities with invitations
- Send birthday cards to widows signed by council members
- Set up a Mass once a year for the deceased member, card with date to Widow

Event Coordinator:

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate with committee members to accomplish requested tasks i.e. (Project Manager)
- Coordinate with committee members to buy and deliver Christmas Flowers to widows

Committee Members:

Responsibilities:

- Be available to assist the Chairman, Communication Director, and Event Coordinator as requested
-