

SCRIPT FOR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Leader: We gather this evening to remember *(insert name here)*. Brother(s) *(insert name here)* was initiated into the *(insert chapter name here)* at *(insert university name here)* in *(insert year, if available)*. Many Brothers, including several of us present tonight, had the privilege of knowing and working with Brother(s) *(insert name here)*.

Secretary: Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity, was founded in 1919 by ten Brothers, led by Director Bohumil Makovsky.

The spirit of brotherhood quickly spread across the nation, and by 1930, there were 27 chapters across the United States. Today, active chapters exist at *(insert number here)* campuses, making a national brotherhood while still preserving the familial bonds we each cherish. Kappa Kappa Psi also enjoys a unique relationship with Tau Beta Sigma Sorority, which is also dedicated to band service.

Leader: “We, the Brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi, believe that service to the college or university band program fosters responsibility, loyalty, and leadership; that a spirit of brotherhood is enhanced by the participation in a band program; that music is a universal language and truly the greatest of the arts; and that through

fraternal participation, each member will strive for the highest.”

These words, taken from the Kappa Kappa Psi Creed, describe the purpose of the fraternal organization. Each of these principles is immeasurable in its importance to our fraternity.

Our historian will now describe Brother(s) *(insert name here)*’s fraternal activities.

Historian: *(At this point, a brief eulogy of the deceased brother shall be provided. Important items (offices, memorable moments, etc.) shall be provided. If desired, this may be spread to more than one member and may also include family members.)*

Leader: The family of musicians is small, the brotherhood of Kappa Kappa Psi even smaller.

Serving in Kappa Kappa Psi is both an honor and a privilege. Membership in the Brotherhood of Kappa Kappa Psi represents that one is more capable, more concerned, and more interested than the average college band member or typical student.

Chaplain (or other appointed person): The passing of (a) Brother(s) leaves a void within the brotherhood. We must remember Brother(s) *(insert name here)* and use this period of mourning to remember our roots and reflect upon the service of Brother(s) *(insert name here)*.

Music is a combination of many elements: pitch, duration, tempo. But there is one, ONE which is present within all music: (*long pause*) silence. Silence provides the punctuation within music allowing for pause and reflection. We must take time, especially in situations such as this, to assess and reflect upon our activities and our dedication. Without this reflection, we diminish the harmony of life and fail to ascertain the blessings we have been given.

Leader: On the memorial table are the colors of Kappa Kappa Psi - blue and white. The two lower points of the blue triangle represent the two pillars of our fraternity: Brotherhood and Service. The top point of the triangle, hidden above the table, represents our motto, "Strive for the Highest."

Chaplain (or other appointed person): Brother(s) (*insert name here*) exhibited leadership by dedicating (*themselves*) to both brotherhood and service. In (*their*) memory, we present this sign of leadership. The baton is placed with the handle in music, the language of both joy and sorrow. The tip of the baton points toward the third point of the triangle, representing our motto.

At this point, one of the brothers participating in the memorial service shall place a baton on the table. The baton shall be placed so that the handle rests upon the white cloth and the point of the baton points towards the third point of the triangle. The handle of the baton should be slightly to the right of the tip.

In turn, each brother present will place a carnation on right side of the memorial table while reciting the motto "Strive for the Highest." The Leader should be the last to place their carnation. After placing the carnation, the Leader should blow out all of the outer candles, from the highest right, clockwise to the highest left, leaving the center candle burning for some time.

At this time, if the brotherhood has a gift or other token to present to the family, this would be appropriate to place this within this location.

At this time, it MAY be appropriate to sing the fraternity Hymn. However, this SHOULD NOT be done if it might be objectionable to the family.

Leader: The bond of Brotherhood is strong. It transcends all events, and consistently brings us together as Brothers, as family. The red carnation is our flower, the flower of Brotherhood and Kappa Kappa Psi. It is a fitting and appropriate tribute to our fallen Brother(s). In your final remembrance of our Brother(s), remember (*their*) dedication to service, (*their*) spirit of brotherhood, and most importantly, (*their*) adherence to our motto.

At this time, Brothers, please provide Brother(s) (*insert name here*) with your final remembrance.