

# Helpful Tips for Donations made in Memory or Honor of a Person.

## **A personal check is the best way to offer a financial donation or memorial gift.**

When making a donation by check, you should include a note indicating the following:

- Your name and complete mailing address
- Specify that your gift is in honor or memory of *[the person's full name, and mailing address, if known, or at least the city/state]*
- Request the recipient send an acknowledgement to *[the full name/mailing address of the person or closest survivor, immediate family member or next-of-kin]*
- Request the recipient send you an acknowledgement of your donation

## What About Cash Donations?

Many surviving loved ones and attendees place cash in sympathy cards and then drop off those cards at the funeral or memorial service. If the immediate family requested donations for a specific charity, cause or organization, you should *not* make your gift in cash directly to the family. Doing so merely creates a burden for those closest to the deceased, who must then make that donation on your behalf when they already have enough weighing on their hearts and minds.

Obviously, if physical currency is your only option, then making a cash donation directly to the family is acceptable, but you should also include a note mentioning that you cannot offer your gift any other way and apologizing for the inconvenience during this difficult time.

