

Wishing you
a peaceful
Holiday Season



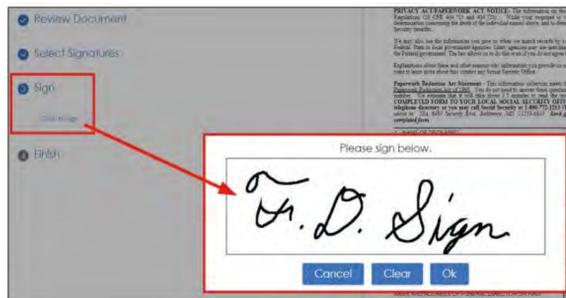
800-622-8358
Holiday 2020

Cremation Society of Illinois™
Cremation - Think Outside The Box

Dear Friend,

It seems impossible to believe 2020 is coming to an end. This year has been filled with challenges, hardship and new experiences in many ways.

Covid-19 has changed the way Cremation Society of Illinois conducts business. We went from in person meetings to phone calls, email correspondence and Zoom communications. Our computer database provider programmed our forms offering electronic capabilities. We can now safely meet with families and plan their cremation for themselves or their loved ones, distanced and from the comforts of their home.



When our families wanted to honor their loved one with a service prior to cremation, we adapted once again. With gathering restrictions down to ten attendees, we began to seek out ways where families could be involved via streaming services. Our families were able to feel the support of loved ones who would have been there in person if not for the pandemic.



In Rockford, our annual Veterans event was celebrated a bit differently this year. In lieu of our program and luncheon at Grace United Methodist Church, we honored our veterans and their guests with a boxed lunch from Pinnon's deli and a goodie bag. Over 50 lunches were served. It was a short visit, but it felt good to thank and honor our veterans.

These times have been unexpected, stressful and difficult and we have all adapted in ways that would have been unimaginable a year ago. As we move forward to 2021, Cremation Society will continue to

assist and adjust to the needs of our families. May your Holiday Season be filled with hope, joy, peace, and continue into the coming year.

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Pumpkin Pecan Cheesecake

Prep Time: 20 mins
Cook Time: 1 hr. 45 mins
Total Time: 2 hrs. 5 mins

This Pumpkin Pecan Cheesecake has a crispy, baked pecan topping that pairs perfectly with the creamy texture of the pumpkin spice flavored cheesecake.

Ingredients:

- 24 oz. cream cheese; softened to room temperature
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 3/4 c. firmly packed brown sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/2 c. pumpkin
- 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 3 tbsp. flour; sifted
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Pecan Topping:

- 1 c. pecans; chopped
- 1 c. brown sugar
- 4 tbsp. softened butter

Crust:

- 1 1/2 c. graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 c. sugar
- 6 tbsp. butter; melted
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Prepare the crust by combining the graham cracker crumbs, sugar and cinnamon. Stir in the melted butter. Firmly press crust into the bottom and up the sides of a 9-inch spring-form pan. Bake the crust for 6 minutes and remove from the oven.
2. Beat the cream cheese until fluffy; beat in sugars, vanilla and pumpkin pie spice.
3. Add the eggs 1 at a time; lightly beat until just combined. Lightly beat in the pumpkin and then, the flour. Don't over-beat!
4. Pour the cheese mixture into the prepared crust. Bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Begin preparing pecan topping around 10 minutes before timer goes off.
5. Prepare the topping by combining the pecans, brown sugar and butter. Sprinkle the mixture over the top of the cheesecake. Return the cheesecake to the oven and bake for an additional 15 minutes.
6. Turn off the oven and leave the cheesecake in with the door closed for an additional 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow to cool. Cover cheesecake and refrigerate in the pan overnight before serving.

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