

Photo Credit: Jac Dodge Photography

PASSED... BUT, PRESENT!

20 Ways To Remember Loved Ones At Your Wedding

With the recent passing of Her Majesty The Queen, we got talking about how important it is for couples to recognise those family members who are no longer with us. At first you might find it a little awkward or difficult to include in your wedding activities, but memories of passed loved ones are throughout our ranch and take on significance when we share with couples getting married at Blame Her Ranch. Our most famous is the “Drink a little, Rub a little” bar is named after Steve’s father’s favourite saying when he drank screwdrivers, where he always seemed to splash a little on himself (rubbing it in) and then consuming the remaining portion.

The ones we love most aren’t always able to be there with us to celebrate life’s milestones. Fortunately, there are many meaningful ways you can acknowledge these special people on your wedding day – here’s a list of touching ideas for how to honour and remember them.

KEEP THEM CLOSE

1. Include their favourite flower in your bouquet or boutonniere.
2. Attach a photo locket, piece of jewellery, handkerchief, or other personal items to your bouquet.
3. Cut a piece of your loved one’s clothing in the shape of a heart and sew it to the inside of your dress. This can also be your something old or blue.
4. Wear your father’s tie or cufflinks to remember him on the day.
5. Pin a photo to your boutonniere so they can be close to your heart.

THE CEREMONY

6. Add photos of loved ones who can’t be there to your ceremony aisle.
7. Reserve a seat for them at the front of the ceremony with a photo, flower, or candle.
8. Light a candle during the service in memory of all those

who are there in spirit.

9. Take a moment to share what they mean to you and how much they’re missed.
10. Include a picture of them on your registry table so they can be part of your certificate signing photos.

THE RECEPTION

11. Create a photo display celebrating those who have passed. Old wedding photos are a lovely touch.
12. Acknowledge them during the reception speeches.
13. Toast with their favourite wine or include their favourite after five drink on your bar menu.
14. Incorporate a favourite food or activity of theirs into your day.
15. Dance to their favourite song.

SIGNS & READINGS

16. “We think about you always, we talk about you still. You have never been forgotten, and you never will. We hold you close within our hearts and there you will remain. To walk and guide us through our lives, until we meet again.”
17. “Those we love don’t go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed, and very dear.”
18. “On this special day, our thoughts are with the loved ones who could not be with us. We feel your presence in our hearts.”
19. “Forever in our thoughts, you have never gone away. We wish you could be here to share our special day.”
20. “Your presence is in our hearts as we say ‘I Do’. We proudly say our vows in loving memory of you.” **WH**

BLAME HER RANCH IS AN EXCLUSIVE WEDDING VENUE NEAR SANTE FE IN NEW MEXICO. FIND OUT MORE AT BLAMEHERRANCH.COM OR [@BLAMEHERRANCHSANTAFE](https://www.instagram.com/BLAMEHERRANCHSANTAFE) BY SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR LINDA

