

● PSF: Subject File: Roosevelt, Franklin D. : Burial Instructions, 1937.

Box 177.

In the event of my death in office as President of the United States I make the following requests:

1. That a service of the utmost simplicity be held in the East Room of the White House, to be attended only by the household, by those in the Executive Office who have been close to me, by the Cabinet and their families and by such other members of the Administration Branch as have been close to me.
2. That there be no lying in State anywhere.
3. That the Army have charge of taking the casket to the Rotunda of the Capitol and that immediately ^{at 12 noon} a simple service be held there, the Congress, Judiciary and Diplomatic Corps attending. I request that the service last not more than 20 minutes and that there be only prayers ^{by Rev. E. Smith, D.D.} and two hymns - no speaking. Army in charge all day, to the train.
4. That the funeral train leave for Hyde Park at 1 p.m. arriving there at 8 p.m. and that it be accompanied only by those who see.

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- to attend the interment. That the Navy have charge of the train and everything thereafter.
5. That on arrival at Hyde Park the casket be taken to St James' Church and a simple short service be held, the ^{old} neighbors of mine only being asked. Casket to be borne by Marines.
 6. That thru the casket, be taken from the Church to the house, and placed in front of the East fireplace in the big room ^{for the night}.
 7. That the following morning the interment take place where the you did it made in the garden, and that the casket be carried from the house to the garden by men from the place including the Royal place and the back from and Val Kill cottage.
 8. That the interment be attended only by the family, the Cabinet, the President, the Speaker and not to exceed 2 Senators and 2 Representatives.
 9. That a gun-carriage and not a hearse be used throughout.
 10. That the casket be of absolute simplicity, dark wood, that the body be not embalmed or beautified.

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grated, and that the grave be not lined with brick, cement or stone.

11. That a ^{plain} white marble monument, ^{no carving or decoration} be placed over the grave; east and west as follows:

Length 8 feet.

Width 4 feet.

Height 3 feet.

The whole to be set on a marble base extending 2 feet out beyond the monument all round but said base not to be more than six inches above the ground.

12. It is my hope that my dear wife will see her death & burial there also, and that the monument contain no device or inscription except the following on the south side:

Franklin Delano Roosevelt
1882 - 19 -

Anna Eleanor Roosevelt
1884 - 19 -



13. That only the Rector of St James Church officiate at the interment.
14. That no moving pictures be taken on the place, and only 3 still picture camera men be allowed at St. James or at the house or garden. 3 Newspaper men only - press Association.
15. That a detail of marines and State Troopers guard the garden, house and grounds for a reasonable time and that the public be not admitted to the place until adequate arrangements can be made.
16. That any period of national mourning be limited to one month.
17. That subsequent care of the garden, house and grounds be arranged substantially in accord with memorandum covering this and enclosed with this.

Franklin Roosevelt

The White House
Dec. 26th 1937



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(15 Federal Register 7712 — Nov. 14, 1950)