



What Legacy Really Means

By Eve Gibbons, Business Leader, (Cemetery Manager) Carr Villa Memorial Park

When we hear the word legacy, we often think of achievements, milestones, or what someone accomplished during their lifetime.

But in my experience, legacy is something quieter.

It is the stories told at a service.

It is the values reflected in how someone lived.

It is the way family and friends speak about them years later.

At Carr Villa, I see legacy every day, not in grand gestures, but in the details. A favourite song chosen because it "was always theirs." A particular garden selected because it reflects their love of nature. A plaque inscription that captures their humour or kindness in just a few words.

Legacy is not created in the final week of life. It is built over decades. But how we choose to be remembered, and how we help our families honour us, becomes part of that story.

Planning ahead is not about controlling every detail. It is about ensuring that the farewell reflects the life that came before it.

When I reflect on the families I have supported, I am reminded that what matters most is not extravagance. It is authenticity.

Legacy is not what we leave behind in material terms.

It is how we are remembered.

And sometimes, the greatest act of legacy is making things clearer for those who will carry our memory forward.

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