

Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

Remembering Loved Ones

The holiday season is a time when we think about family and our loved ones. It should be a happy time of friends and fellowship and togetherness. Sometimes it's not. My mother in law just passed away a few weeks ago and we are in the middle of settling her estate. What do we do now? The library is a good place to start in finding an answer to that question. I searched the word "funeral" on our library computer catalog and came up with the book, "When someone dies: the practical guide to the logistics of death". I was directed to the Dewey numbers 306.9 and found this book by Scott Taylor Smith. I found this book a helpful guide to understanding what needed to be done, and the right way to do it. He even offers a website where you can send him a question he didn't cover in his book. This book and others like it will help to ease some of the stress of going through this difficult time of losing a loved one, especially during the holiday season. Library staff stands by to help you find the book or source needed for your situation. Thank you to everyone that has been so kind to me and my family during this time of mourning.

We also have print books and audio books to help encourage those going through difficult times. We have many "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books and audio books. These heartwarming stories will be a comfort to the readers. If you have some travel time that you are looking forward to this holiday season, an audio book would be the perfect solution to enjoying the long travel time. We have nearly 2,000 different audio titles for you to choose from; nonfiction and fiction. Not to mention the 7,483 audio books on our Nebraska Overdrive online library. If you need any help accessing these online audio just call the library at 402-564-7116 or bring your device in and let us help you. We have a Tech Tuesday on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00p.m. or you can call to make an individual appointment with a librarian.

To quote one of our library patrons, "My library card is worth more than anything else in my purse." She knows the value of a library card and what she can do with it. All library items are free to access for library card holders. Library cards themselves are free to Platte County and Columbus residents. The library is supported by property taxes, so that is why we ask you to bring proof of residency when you apply for a card. If you are not a Platte County or Columbus resident you can still obtain a computer card for access to our library computers. Or you can pay the \$40 for a yearly privilege or \$25 for six months check out privileges. We also have an exempt card that Platte County or Columbus employees or students that don't reside in the area may obtain with proof of employment or school enrollment. Just ask if you have any questions. We would love to help you benefit from what the library has to offer.

Have a safe and joyful holiday season from all of us at the Columbus Library! Merry Christmas!