

# Unsung Heroes

GRIEF  
SPACE  
Support Practices Adapted FOR THIS Challenging Era

IGI INTERNATIONAL  
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INVESTING IN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

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## *There are unsung heroes.*

Those who comfort and guide us,  
as the fallout creeps beyond the hospital walls  
and we must bury our dead.  
We, grief stricken, weep for the loss of life.

## *These unsung heroes*

Retrieve bodies at midnight,  
Transport them to the mortuary,  
Prepare them for burial,  
and dig their graves.  
We struggle to adjust.

## *These unsung heroes*

Adapt with overnight flexibility to new realities:  
Enforce the limit of ten,  
Police the six-foot distance,  
Learn and facilitate technology,  
for virtual funeral guests the world over.  
We cope with these uncertain times.

## *These unsung heroes*

Tirelessly labor in the shadows,  
Scant notice taken of their prodigious kindness,  
or the dignity they offer for our final goodbye.

## *To our unsung heroes,*

We witness your sacred service  
now exponentially increased  
by the crushing number of lives lost.  
Your calls for reinforcements from colleagues,  
They help carry the unbearable load.

## *For you, our unsung heroes,*

who continue to provide hope and healing for others  
We offer thanks.  
We are grateful for the burdens you shoulder,  
For the glimmers of light you shed,  
the compassion you provide.

## *We praise you, our unsung heroes,*

for your care and dedication,  
in the face of this pandemic.

