

Aug. 16, 1960

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2,948,977

FLORAL GIFT PHOTOGRAPH AND SYMPATHY CARD FOLDER

Filed Oct. 1, 1954

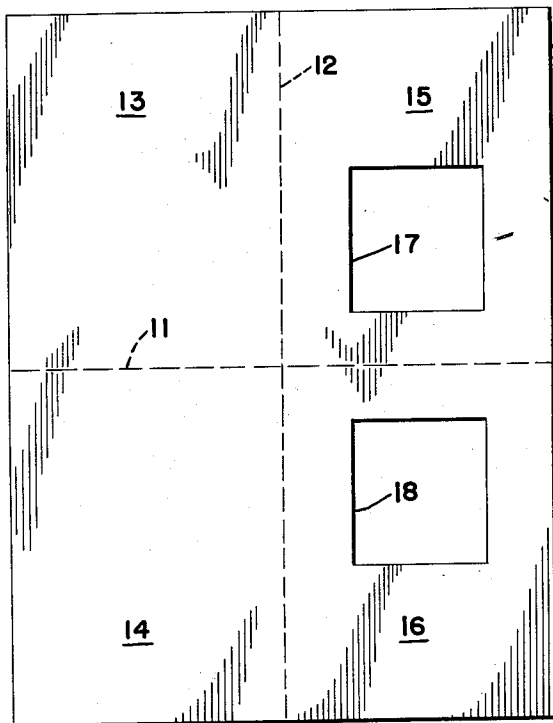


FIG. 1

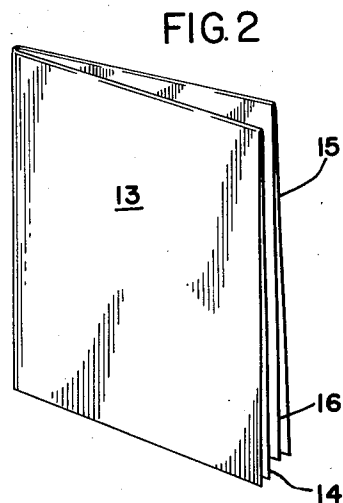


FIG. 2

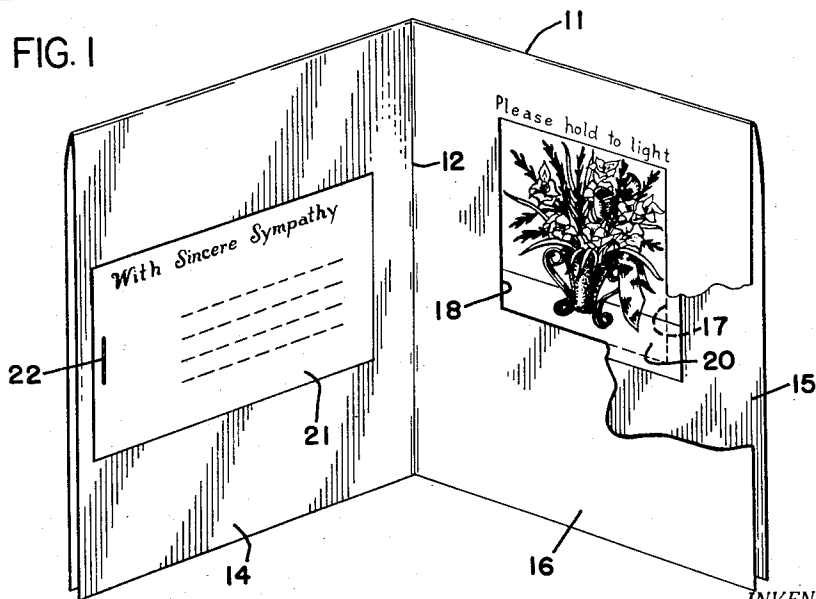


FIG. 3

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Filed Oct. 1, 1954, Ser. No. 459,589

1 Claim. (Cl. 40—158)

The invention relates to novel means for informing the bereaved family of a deceased person of the nature of each floral gift displayed at the funeral service, in association with the identity of the particular donor, for an indefinite period after the service. Conventional practice has been for the mortician or some other person assigned to the task to remove the sympathy cards attached to the floral gifts before the conclusion of the funeral service, and thereafter to deliver the collected cards to the bereaved family. Several days after the funeral service, the family sends out acknowledgments of the floral gifts by referring to the cards.

When the acknowledgments are sent out there is no way of identifying the floral gift which was sent with each card, and the emotional condition of the family members at the time of the service substantially precludes association by them of the donors with the floral gifts, so that they have little or no recollection of such association by the time acknowledgments are sent out. This is a serious disadvantage because not only does the bereaved family wish to thank the donors by referring to the nature and appearance of the floral gift, but the donor wishes to be informed regarding the appearance of his gift because, usually, there is no opportunity for him to locate and observe his particular floral gift in company with many others on display at the chapel or place of the funeral service.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a novel device for making a permanent record of the exact nature and appearance of each floral gift received, in association with the identity of the donor of said gift, so that the bereaved family may refer to said device at any time after the funeral service to obtain complete information regarding the floral gift of each donor.

Another object is to provide a novel device for keeping a pictorial record of each floral gift in association with the identity of its donor.

These and other related objects are accomplished by the novel floral gift and associated sympathy card folder comprising the present invention, a preferred embodiment of which is illustrated and described herein by way of example. Various modifications and changes in details of construction are to be comprehended within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

By means of the invention, each floral arrangement is photographed when received at the funeral home before being placed on display, and the photograph in association with the donor's sympathy card is presented to the bereaved family at any desired subsequent time.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the blank from which the folder of the invention is formed.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view on an enlarged scale, showing the folder in substantially closed position.

Fig. 3 is a further enlarged perspective view showing the folder in open position displaying a photographic

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transparency of the floral gift and the donor's sympathy card associated therewith.

The novel folder is constructed of high grade paper having a pleasing and dignified appearance with substantial body, while allowing folding without buckling or crinkling. As shown in Fig. 1, a rectangular blank 10 of a single thickness of the paper is cut into rectangular form and is divided into four equal panels by the fold lines 11 and 12 at right angles to each other. These panels comprise adjoining upper and lower panels 13 and 14 and upper and lower panels 15 and 16.

Upper and lower panels 15 and 16 have rectangular window openings 17 and 18, respectively, formed therein at locations so that when the blank is folded on itself along fold line 11, the openings 17 and 18 register with each other. A photographic color transparency 20 of a floral gift is secured over the opening 17, preferably on the inside of back panel 15 adjacent to front panel 16 when the folder is in the partly folded position of Fig. 3. The transparency may be secured over the opening 17 by means of adhesive tape or in any suitable manner, and preferably the opening 17 is slightly smaller in area than the transparency to facilitate attaching the latter.

The panel 14 has mounted thereon, by a staple 22 or other suitable means, the sympathy card 21 of the donor of the floral gift pictured in the transparency 20. Any or all of the panels 13, 14 and 16 may be embellished with suitable decorations. Adjacent to the window opening 18, the panel 16 is preferably imprinted with the words "Please Hold To Light," so that the color transparency can be viewed through the registering openings 17 and 18.

In using the novel folder, each floral gift delivered to the mortician is photographed before being placed on display in the funeral chapel, and the film is marked with a reference number or character which will show in the photograph transparency produced therefrom. At the same time, the donor's sympathy card attached to the gift is marked with the same reference number so that the correct donor is always associated with his particular gift. After the transparency is developed it is mounted over the window opening 17, as previously described, and the donor's sympathy card bearing the same reference number is attached to inside panel 14. Preferably, the folder is then folded again along line 12 to the position of Fig. 2, to enclose and protect the sympathy card and the transparency.

At a suitable time, subsequent to the funeral service, the folders containing the sympathy cards and photographic reproductions of all of the gifts received are presented by the mortician to the bereaved family, so that they can view the representation of each gift and associate it with the expression of sympathy of its donor, at a time when their minds are composed and they are able fully to appreciate the donor's gift and expression.

In acknowledging the various gifts, the family is thus enabled to refer descriptively to each floral arrangement, thereby conveying their thanks in a more sincere and personal manner. If desired, the family may retain the folders in visual remembrance of the gifts, or may send to such donors who were unable to attend the service, the folders containing the photographic reproductions of their respective gifts.

Moreover, the use of the novel folders in the foregoing manner by the mortician insures the floral donor that his gift as an expression of his sympathy will be fully appreciated by members of the bereaved family.

What is claimed is:

A folder containing a reproduction of a floral gift in association with the identification of the donor, comprising adjoining front panels and adjoining back panels

underlying said front panels, said adjoining front and back panels having fold lines therebetween, one of said front panels and its underlying back panel having registering window openings therein, a photographic transparency of a floral gift mounted over the window opening of the back panel, and a card bearing the name of the donor of said gift detachably mounted on the other of said front panels. 5

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