

A GUIDE TO WRITING A EULOGY

Please find below some ideas for information to include in the eulogy. There is no 'right' way a eulogy should be written but this is your opportunity to tell the story of the life that they lived. It is a recollection of their lives covering major milestones, anecdotes, stories and what they will be remembered for. Although usually presented in chronological order, the eulogy will naturally move back and forth in its timeline and flow. To ensure other parts of the funeral are not rushed and to retain the interest of mourners, a eulogy is usually no longer than 5-7 minutes.

TIP: whilst it is useful to include important dates and milestones (facts), a eulogy that includes **stories** that people can relate to – light-hearted anecdotes that will bring a smile to their face – will make the eulogy more engaging and interesting. Remember it's not a resume!

RECOMMENDATION: even if presenting the eulogy yourself, please email me a copy of the eulogy so I have it on file in case I need to step and so I can allow enough time in the service.

- **BIRTH** - DATE, LOCATION, PARENTS, SIBLINGS
- **CHILDHOOD** - ACTIVITIES, LIKES/DISLIKES
- **SCHOOLING** - PRIMARY/SECONDARY, SPORTS, HOBBIES, INTERESTS
- **EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT** - STUDY, JOBS, QUALIFICATIONS
- **RELATIONSHIPS** - HOW DID THEY MEET? MARRIAGES {DATE & LOCATION}, CHILDREN (YEARS OF BIRTH), GRANDCHILDREN (YEARS OF BIRTH)

OTHER THINGS THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFE:

- COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/VOLUNTEER/AWARDS
- SPIRITUAL BELIEFS (RELIGIOUS)
- TRAVEL STORIES
- CHARACTERISTICS/TRAIT/QUIRKS/HABITS – GOOD, BAD & ANNOYING!
- LIKES/DISLIKES (FOOD, DRINKS, MOVIES, BOOKS)
- MUSIC/TV/ART
- ANIMALS/PETS
- SOCIAL CLIMATE (WHAT DID THEY LIVE THROUGH? I.E WARS?)
- PLACES OF RESIDENCE
- NICKNAMES
- MEMBERSHIPS (CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS)
- QUOTES/SAYINGS/WORDS OF WISDOM
- WHAT ANNOYED THEM MOST IN THE WORLD? (LIGHT-HEARTED/SERIOUS)
- SOME FUNNY STORIES (TIMES THAT MADE YOU LAUGH)

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- ANY CLOSE FRIENDS OR SPECIAL PEOPLE TO ACKNOWLEDGE?
- WHAT MADE THEM HAPPY?
- WHAT DID YOU ADMIRE MOST THEM?
- WHAT WAS THEIR OUTLOOK ON LIFE?
- WHAT WAS THEIR GIFT TO YOU?

I RECOMMEND FINISHING WITH:

- THE DATE THEY LEFT US
- WHAT YOU WILL REMEMBER THEM MOST FOR & WHAT YOU WILL MISS THE MOST