



DYING MATTERS

Created by: Heather D. Welborn
Funeral Director / Deathcare Researcher
Funeral Celebrant / Grief Support

Email: allherfriendsaredead@gmail.com
Website: www.allherfriendsaredead.com

Obituary Writing Guide

GENERALIZED OUTLINE SECTIONS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAME / ANNOUNCEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full name of the deceased (including nickname) ○ Age at death ○ Residence (i.e.: the name of the city) at death ○ <u>Day</u> and <u>date</u> of death ○ Place of death ○ Cause of death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIFE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date/Place of birth ○ Names of parents & siblings ○ Marriage(s): date of, place, name of spouse ○ Education: school, college, university and other ○ Designations, awards, and other recognition ○ Employment: company(s) ○ Hobbies, sports, interests, activities, etc. ○ Charitable, religious, fraternal, political, and other affiliations; positions held ○ Achievements/Disappointments ○ Unusual attributes, humor, other stories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SERVICE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Service details: day, date, time, place ○ Viewing/Visitation details ○ Reception details ○ Other memorial, vigil, or graveside services details ○ Name of funeral home in charge of arrangements ○ What website to leave tributes/acknowledgements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • END <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Memorial funds established ○ Memorial donation suggestions, including addresses ○ Thank you to people, groups, or institutions ○ Quotation or poem ○ Three words that sum up the life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY - SURVIVED BY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spouse ○ Children (in order of date of birth) ○ Grandchildren (Great & Great great grandchildren) ○ Parents ○ Grandparents ○ Siblings (in order of date of birth) ○ Others, such as nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws ○ Pets (if appropriate) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAMILY - PRECEDED IN DEATH BY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spouse ○ Children (in order of date of birth) ○ Grandchildren (Great & Great great grandchildren) ○ Parents ○ Grandparents ○ Siblings (in order of date of birth) ○ Others, such as nephews, nieces, cousins, in-laws ○ Pets (if appropriate)

VITAL STATISTICS

Current Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Name at birth: _____

First

Middle

Last

Social Security Number: _____

Date of birth: _____

Location of birth: _____

City

State

Country

Date of death: _____

Location of death: _____

City

State

Country

Age at death: _____

MY LIFE

Name of Father: _____

Name of Mother: _____

Siblings: _____

Childhood Stories: _____

MY EDUCATION

Name of Grade School: _____

Dates attended: _____

Location: _____

Name of Middle/Junior/High School: _____

Dates attended: _____

Location: _____

Name of College(s): _____

Dates attended: _____

Location: _____

Major/Degree: _____

Name of Other Schooling: _____

Dates attended: _____

Location: _____

Focus/Degree/Certification: _____

DESIGNATIONS/AWARDS/OTHER RECOGNITIONS

WORK

Employer(s): _____

Stories about Work: _____

