

OBITUARY WRITING GUIDE

An obituary can be as basic as containing only public facts about a person's life such as their birth date, their family tree, and their death date. It also may be a very personal look at one's life. Not only can it be a summation of the public facts but a glimpse of the uniqueness that, when combined with those facts, creates a personality. Typically written by a loved one, an obituary becomes an intimate view of what made that individual memorable to others.

Suggested Content ~ PLEASE USE FORM ON BACK

Announcement

- Full Name of the deceased (maiden)
- Date of death, place of death, cause of death (if desired)
- Photograph of the deceased

Biographical Information

- Date/Place of birth
- Parents (maiden)
- Spouse (maiden)
- Education: schools, colleges attended, accomplishments, degrees earned, licenses held
- Military Service: which branch of service and which conflict they served in
- Residential history
- Work/Career history and work affiliations
- Church membership and organizations within the church
- Civic/Fraternal/Club memberships
- Hobbies, other interests

Survivor Information

- Survivors: names (opt. city and state of residence) of spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents, siblings
- Family members preceding loved one in death: spouse, parents, children, grandchildren, siblings

Scheduled Ceremonies and Gatherings of Remembrance

- Funeral or memorial service: date, time, place, name of funeral home
- Place of burial or entombment
- Visitation information: day time, and place

Thank You & Memorial Giving

- Mention any people or groups you wish to thank publicly for care given to the deceased.
- If you chose to establish a Memorial Fund, a formal request for donations is typically added at the end of the obituary.

The funeral home will help you organize your thoughts, type your obituary, and send the obituary/picture to the newspaper(s) you select. Our two local newspapers (Deseret News & Salt Lake Tribune) charge for obituary announcements; however, some newspapers do not.

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