



Writing a Good Eulogy

A meaningful eulogy gets to the heart of its subject and conveys who the person was in ways that are loving and meaningful. Listed below are suggested ideas that you may want to include. Select the topics that you feel are most relevant for you to tell the story of your loved one's life.

Personal Details of Your Loved One

Introduce Yourself	
Name of Deceased: First, Middle and Surname	
Did he/she have a Nickname?	
He/she is my (relationship)	
How old was he/she?	
If married, spouse's name? How many years were they married? Is he or she living? If not, when did he/she pass away?	
What are his/her parents' names? Are they living?	

Family History

Where was he/she raised?	
If married, when and where did they meet?	
Did he/she have children? How many and their names?	
Did he/she have grandchildren? How many and their names?	
Did he/she have great grandchildren? How many and their names?	
Any other important inter-generational relationships?	

Names of siblings (Please designate whether they are living or deceased)	
What stories of his/her childhood did he/she tell?	
Any stories about teen and young adult years?	
General Information	
What education level did he/she reach? What did he/she major in?	
What did he/she do for a living? For what company? For how long? Had he/she retired?	
Are there any stories about his/her work life that you remember?	
Was he/she involved with any clubs or other organizations?	
Were there any significant events that shaped his/her life?	
Did he/she have any obstacles to overcome in his/her life?	
What do you think he/she would say were the biggest achievements of his/her life?	
Name things he/she enjoyed doing?	
What talents or skills did he/she have?	
What were his/her favourite pastimes or hobbies?	
Who were his/her closest friends? How did they meet? What were their favourite things to do together?	
Is there some phrase or words he/she always used - some expression uniquely his/hers? What did it mean?	

Virtues

How would you describe his/her outlook on life?

What were his/her endearing attributes?

What were his/her less endearing attributes?

Was he/she a religious person? If so, to what extent? Did he/she have a church or synagogue or mosque?

What trait or characteristic or value do you think he or she would most like to have passed on to the next generations?

How do you think he/she most influenced the lives of those he/she knew?

Personal Memories

What special memory of him/her do you have - something you did together or something he/she said or some quirk he/she had.

If you were granted five more minutes with him/her, what would you say?