



# Writing an Obituary

At our funeral homes we are glad to assist you by writing an obituary and then having you review it. We will make any changes you wish. We realize that some people prefer to do this themselves. Here is a step by step guide on how we write an obituary. This can easily be used by anyone who wishes to write an obituary for the local newspaper.

## **In the first paragraph we include the following information:**

- Name
- Age
- City, State of residence
- Date of Death
- Place of Death
- Surrounded by family, assisted by Hospice, etc.

## **In the second paragraph we include the following information:**

- Service, include day, date, time and place of service (Name of clergy and their title)
- Visitation information including day, time and place of visitation
- Vigil or Prayer Services being held (include day, time and place)
- Memorial Services held by others (include day, time and place)
- Place of burial or entombment

## **In the next paragraph we include the following information:**

- Date of birth
- Birthplace
- Parents' names
- Education (grade & high school, post high school, degrees earned and licenses held)
- Military service if applicable, which war or conflict served in, where stationed if overseas
- Marriage/s
- Residential history

## **Next paragraph:**

- Work history and work affiliations
- Church membership and organizations within the church
- Civic memberships
- Fraternal memberships
- Club memberships

*With all the above include any positions or offices the person may have held.*

- Hobbies
- Other interests

## **Next paragraph:**

List survivors, include spouse of survivor in parenthesis, and city & state of residence

- Spouse
- Children
- Great Grandchildren
- Great-Great Grandchildren
- Parents
- Grandparents
- Brothers
- Sisters
- Nephews
- Nieces
- Cousins
- Friends

## **Next paragraph:**

- List family that preceded him/her in death, usually spouse, parents, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers, and sisters

## **Next paragraph:**

- Listing of any memorial funds that may have been established and for what cause(s) or organization(s).
- Mention of any people or groups you wish to publicly thank for care given to deceased.