



Obituary Writing Worksheet (with AI Assistance)

This worksheet is designed to help you gather important details before using an AI tool like ChatGPT to assist in writing a heartfelt obituary. AI can help organize and draft your thoughts, but it's your love and memories that make the story meaningful.

1. Information to Gather

- Full Legal Name and Nickname
- Date & Place of Birth / Death
- Age at Time of Passing
- Parents' Names
- Siblings' Names
- Marriage(s): Spouse, How They Met, Date of Marriage
- Children, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren
- Education History
- Career & Military Service
- Religious Affiliation, Community Involvement, Titles Held
- Hobbies, Passions, Traditions
- Quotes, Sayings, or Scriptures
- Predeceased Family Members
- Memorable Anecdotes or Stories

2. Ideal Obituary Length Guidance

Most standard funeral programs use about half a letter-sized page at 12-point font. When using AI, be sure to specify the length you want based on how the obituary will be used.

- Suggested length prompts for AI:
- ✓ Short: 'Please keep this under 200 words.'
- ✓ Medium: 'Please keep this between 250–350 words.'
- ✓ Long: 'Please write 500+ words for a booklet or website.'

3. Step-by-Step AI Prompt Builder

Step 1: Set the Role

"You are an esteemed author of biographies and memorial tributes. You are compassionate, thoughtful, and excellent at storytelling. I'd like your help in writing an obituary for someone I loved deeply."

Step 2: Provide the Facts

"Paste the details you've gathered from Section 1. Keep it organized and clear."

Step 3: Ask for a First Draft

"Can you write a heartfelt obituary using the information I provided?"

Step 4: Adjust the Tone

"Please rewrite this to feel more personal and warm, like someone who truly knew them wrote it."

Step 5: Add Personal Moments

"Please include this memory: [insert story here]"

Step 6: Final Polish & Word Count

"Can you proofread this and revise it to be under 350 words while keeping the tone warm and meaningful?"
