

# **How to Write a Eulogy with AI Services (ChatGPT, Copilot, Claude, Gemini). Bill Bahr**

**Note: See end for “non-writer” tips.**

## **Q/A: What information does ChatGPT need to help me write a eulogy for someone?**

ChatGPT said: I'm sorry for your loss. I can absolutely help you write a eulogy. To make it personal and meaningful, here's the kind of information that would be most helpful:

### **1. Who the person was**

- Full name, age, and relationship to you.
- Basic biographical details (e.g., where they were born, where they lived, family, career).

### **2. What made them special**

- Personality traits (e.g., kind, funny, determined).
- Hobbies, passions, or values.
- Achievements or things they were proud of.

### **3. Memories and stories**

- Specific moments or stories that show their character.
- Funny or touching anecdotes.
- Shared experiences that stand out to you.

### **4. Impact on others**

- How they affected family, friends, or the community.
- What people admired most about them.
- Lessons they taught others or legacy they left.

### **5. Tone and length**

- Do you want it to be formal, heartfelt, lighthearted, spiritual, etc.?
- How long does it need to be (e.g., 3–5 minutes spoken = ~500–700 words)?

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You don't need to write everything out in detail—just bullet points or rough thoughts are fine, and I can help turn that into a well-structured eulogy. Ready when you are.

## What information does Copilot need to help me write a eulogy for someone?

To write a meaningful and personal eulogy, I'd need a few heartfelt details to help capture the essence of who they were and how they lived. Here's what would be especially helpful:

### ❤️ Personal Details

- **Name and relationship** to you (e.g. uncle, friend, mentor)
- **Age and cause of passing** (optional, if you'd like it mentioned)
- **Where they lived** or any meaningful places

### ☀️ Legacy and Personality

- **What made them special** — traits, quirks, values they held
- **Their passions or hobbies** — what they loved to do
- **Any achievements or milestones** — personal or professional

### 🧠 Memories and Impact

- **Your favorite memories** or funny stories
- **How they made others feel** — the atmosphere they created around them
- **Words others have used to describe them** — gentle, generous, strong, etc.

### 🌱 Closing Touches

- Any **quotes, poems, or sayings** they liked
- **How you want people to remember them**
- Any **messages you want to share** with those grieving

If you're comfortable, we can start with just one memory or quality that defined them most — even a small detail can grow into something powerful. What's something you'd want everyone to know or remember about them?

## **What information does Claude need to help me write a eulogy for someone?**

Claude said: To write a meaningful eulogy, you would typically need to provide the following information:

### **About the person:**

- Full name and basic biographical details (age, where they lived)
- Key relationships (spouse, children, family members, close friends)
- Their profession or main life work
- Major life achievements and milestones
- Personality traits and characteristics that defined them
- Hobbies, interests, and passions

### **Personal stories and memories:**

- Specific anecdotes that illustrate their character
- Memorable moments or experiences shared with them
- How they impacted others' lives
- Their values and what they stood for
- Funny or heartwarming stories that capture their essence

### **Contextual details:**

- The relationship between you (the speaker) and the deceased
- The audience who will be listening (family, friends, colleagues)
- The setting and tone desired (formal, casual, religious, secular)
- Any specific themes or messages you want to convey
- Length requirements or time constraints

### **Special considerations:**

- Cultural or religious traditions to incorporate
- Particular accomplishments or causes they cared about
- How they handled challenges or adversity
- Their legacy and how they'll be remembered

The more specific details and personal touches you can provide, the more authentic and moving the eulogy will be. Even small details about their daily habits, favorite sayings, or quirks can help create a vivid and loving tribute.

## **What information does Gemini need to help me write a eulogy for someone?**

Gemini said: To help you write a meaningful eulogy, Gemini needs information that paints a comprehensive and personal picture of the deceased. Here's a breakdown of what would be most helpful:

### **I. About the Deceased:**

- **Basic Information:**
  - Full name (including any nicknames or maiden names)
  - Date of birth and death
  - Significant places lived or traveled to
  - Immediate family members (parents, siblings, spouse, children, grandchildren) and other close relatives.
- **Personality and Character:**
  - What were their most prominent qualities and virtues (e.g., kind, humorous, determined, compassionate, generous, strong-willed)?
  - What made them unique or special?
  - Did they have any particular sayings, habits, or quirks?
  - What were their values and beliefs?
- **Life Journey & Experiences:**
  - Brief overview of their childhood and family life.

- Education and career path (significant achievements, jobs they enjoyed, how they impacted their workplace).
- Hobbies, passions, and interests (what did they love to do?).
- Major life events (marriage, birth of children, significant moves, overcoming challenges).
- Any significant accomplishments, awards, or contributions.
- **Impact on Others:**
  - How did they influence or inspire those around them?
  - What kind of relationships did they have with friends, family, and community members?
  - How did they make others feel?
  - Stories or examples that illustrate their impact.

## II. Your Relationship to the Deceased:

- **Your Name and Relationship:** Clearly state who you are and how you knew the deceased (e.g., "I'm [Your Name], and I was [Deceased's Name]'s sister/friend/colleague...").
- **Personal Memories and Anecdotes:**
  - Share specific, heartfelt memories and stories that highlight their personality or the qualities you want to emphasize. These can be funny, touching, or inspiring.
  - What will you miss most about them?
  - What did they teach you or how did they change your life?
  - Any "inside jokes" or shared experiences that would resonate with the audience.

## III. Desired Tone and Style:

- **Overall Tone:** Do you want the eulogy to be primarily solemn, celebratory, humorous, reflective, or a mix?
- **Specific Themes:** Are there any particular themes you want to convey (e.g., their love of nature, their dedication to family, their adventurous spirit)?

- **Inclusions:** Are there any specific poems, quotes, song lyrics, or religious passages that were meaningful to the deceased or would be appropriate to include?

#### IV. Practical Considerations:

- **Length:** How long should the eulogy be (typically 3-5 minutes, but confirm if there are other speakers or time limits)?
- **Audience:** Who will be present at the service? This helps tailor the language and content to be appropriate for everyone.
- **Anything to Avoid:** Are there any sensitive topics or details that should *not* be included?

The more specific details and personal anecdotes you can provide, the more unique and heartfelt the eulogy will be. It's also a good idea to talk to other family members and friends for their memories and insights, as this can en....

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## Writing tips from Bill Bahr for non-writers.

For those having problems writing, I've long recommended

- 1, Briefly writing down one's thoughts, with each thought on a card or a piece of paper that can be cut up for each thought.
2. Sort or group thoughts into piles by similarity.
3. Organizing the thought cards, top to bottom, into a coherent flow.
4. Use the cards as cue cards from top to bottom, talking into a recorder as you would speak.
5. Transcribe the recording into text on your computer.
6. Use the computer's spelling and grammar checker. For more sophisticated help, consider downloading a free version of Grammarly. Go to [www.grammarly.com](http://www.grammarly.com), an AI writing service that I've found really helpful. That, together with the AI services and googling/web-searching (use the AI services as well) for research, should produce a very nice result.