

Help with writing a Eulogy

Here are detailed lists of things you might include in a eulogy; not all of them will apply, of course, and you don't have to include everything listed here.

It's helpful/easier to divide things up into manageable sections...

Once you've written the facts down, try then to include something personal in each part of the story, and perhaps include things that will make you and others smile.

Early years

- when and where they were born
- the names of their parents, and their jobs
- how many brothers/sisters (perhaps also in what order)
- school years and education
- stories / events / people from their early years

After school

- what happened/their age when they finished their education
- first job(s), apprenticeships
- National Service and any stories from that time
- Any early achievements

The middle years

- relationships - how they first met their spouse/partner
- stories about the courtship (and proposal?)
- if married, when and where that took place
- if not married, any special people in their lives
- first house / home, and subsequent moves
- any children, their names and the years they were born
- career highlights / achievements
- personal highlights / achievements
- important events / people during this period
- don't forget the fun / sad / personal things...

Later years

- what year or age they retired/left full-time work
- what they did once retired (holidays, hobbies, new people)
- highlights and special occasions during their retirement
- any grandchildren – their names and when they were born
- family stories during this period
- happy / sad / personal moments during this period

Twilight years

- getting on / about, managing during their latter years
- perhaps how they coped with their own losses along the way
- personal highlights or setbacks
- if they had a long or terminal illness, how they coped, and the people around them
- the closing weeks / months of their lives
- the place and date of their death
- any plans the family has for the future, especially in memory of their loved one