



Shaping A Godly Legacy

How Will You Be Remembered?



Cat's in the Cradle – (Read the Words Slowly)

\My child arrived just the other day
He came to the world in the usual way
But there were planes to catch and bills to pay
He learned to walk while I was away
And he was talkin' 'fore I knew it, and as he grew
He'd say "I'm gonna be like you dad
You know I'm gonna be like you"

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man on the moon
When you comin' home dad?
I don't know when, but we'll get together then son
You know we'll have a good time then

My son turned ten just the other day
He said, "Thanks for the ball, Dad, come on let's play
Can you teach me to throw", I said "Not today
I got a lot to do", he said, "That's ok"
And he walked away but his smile never dimmed
And said, "I'm gonna be like him, yeah
You know I'm gonna be like him"

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man on the moon
When you comin' home son?
I don't know when, but we'll get together then son
You know we'll have a good time then

Well, he came home from college just the other day
So much like a man I just had to say
"Son, I'm proud of you, can you sit for a while?"
He shook his head and said with a smile
"What I'd really like, Dad, is to borrow the car keys
See you later, can I have them please?"

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man on the moon
When you comin' home son?
I don't know when, but we'll get together then son
You know we'll have a good time then

I've long since retired, my son's moved away
I called him up just the other day
I said, "I'd like to see you if you don't mind"
He said, "I'd love to, Dad, if I can find the time
You see my new job's a hassle and kids have the flu
But it's sure nice talking to you, Dad
It's been sure nice talking to you"

And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me
He'd grown up just like me
My boy was just like me

And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man on the moon
When you comin' home son?
I don't know when, but we'll get together then son
You know we'll have a good time then

What are your first thoughts after reading these words?

[illegible]

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. The paper has a light cream or off-white color. It is ruled with thin, horizontal blue lines that are evenly spaced across the entire page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Are you afraid to die? If so, why?

Death will be our most important testimony. If you are afraid, how might you walk through your fear?

Any secrets you need to get rid of? TAKE THIS QUESTION VERY SERIOUS. Due to today's cognitive impairments, people lose the ability to cover up and hide secrets. This is the wrong time to speak from your heart.

Final Arrangements

Funeral Home Name & Number

Funeral Documents Location

Location of cemetery plot and deed

Short life history for obituary: (Record on notes page following)

Names of newspapers desired for obituaries

Desires for service to be conducted: (Record on notes page following)

Officiators

Speakers

Music

Location of service

Gathering following the service

Desires for cremated remains

Suggested charitable organizations

If a veteran, are there special instructions? (Record on notes page following)

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Post Mortem Checklist

- Who needs to be notified? Family members, business partners, employer – anyone to whom the deceased person had some type of responsibility. Are there any children, a spouse, elderly or disabled dependents (or pets) who need immediate assistance?
- Freeze and inventory the tangible and intangible assets so that nothing goes off property – cars, house, 401k and other retirement funds, jewelry, keepsakes, etc. List as many things as you can in writing so that there is a record. And consider changing the locks so that you know who has access to the house.
- Look for a will and other legal documents for probate (a family trust, for example). If the will does not stipulate (or if there is no will) identify who will act as executor or administrator.
- Place an announcement or obituary in local and hometown newspapers.
- Plan the funeral service, and don't be afraid to shop on price because they vary widely! Request a price list from all service providers, and ask that they break out individual costs for "packages." You have the right to a la carte pricing for everything a funeral home provides – it's law, actually.
- Request extra copies of the death certificate, and whatever number you think you need, add at least 5 or 10 to that.
- Talk to a probate expert to identify legal and tax issues for the estate.
- Identify what bills and debts exist. Utilities, credit cards, insurance, mortgages and other monthly bills need to be paid, or contacted about extensions. Larger debts will eventually need to be settled. Check credit card statements for ongoing monthly charges (like software subscriptions) that need to be notified or cancelled.
- Contact social media, dating sites, email providers and cellphone companies to shut down digital accounts. Google the deceased's name to check their digital footprint – you may find additional accounts, organizations or people to notify.
- Choose the best go-to people around you for emotional and logistical assistance. Build a strong team for getting things done, and for making sure you get the support you need.

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