



Understanding Obituaries

In summary, an obituary informs people that someone has died and includes details about the funeral, memorial service, and/or burial. They can be used for the Newspaper(abbreviated), Website and Printed. Keep in mind, if you would like a longer version in the newspaper be prepared to pay an additional fee.

Basic information:

- Full name of deceased, including maiden name
- Age
- Date of death
- City and state of residence at time of death [note: if death occurred in another location, use the place of residence, not place of death]
- Name of spouse/partner/significant other, whether alive or deceased
- Date, time and location of service to which the public is invited
- Requested memorials

Extended information, if desired:

- Date of birth
- City and state of birth
- Parents and family of origin:
 - For siblings and other family members, use first name, last name (spouse): "Jane Smith (Bob)"
- Immediate family: children and spouses, grandchildren, great-grandchildren
 - If too many to list, write "10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren"
 - If unsure of quantity, it is appropriate to say "many grandchildren and great-grandchildren"
- Host of Nieces and Nephews
- Summarized Career
- Educational Profile
- Don't forget to acknowledge Military service



- **Personalize and highlight hobbies or special interests**

Extended content

For longer obituaries the following information can be added

- **Date of marriage or how long married**
- **Special events, hobbies, travels, or interests**
- **Awards and achievements**
- **Leadership**
- **Involvement in charitable, religious, business or community organizations**
- **Places of residence, Abroad career, additional careers etc.**
- **Acknowledgement of thanks to caregivers or special friends**

Something to Consider

- **You don't have to mention the cause of death**
- **Nor do you have to mention an ex spouse unless they still have a presence**