CONVERSATION STARTERS

If you are thinking of interviewing a family member, friend, or someone who has inspired you, here are some great suggestions to get the conversation going. You can either choose a category below, or just scroll through and read them all. We encourage you to use the ones you like and to come up with your own.

QUESTIONS FOR ANYONE

- Can you tell me about the important people in your life?
- What have been some of the happiest moments in your life? The saddest?
- Who has been the biggest influence on your life? What lessons did that person or those people teach you?
- What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?
- What is your earliest memory?
- Are there any funny stories or memories or characters from your life that you want to tell me about?
- What are you proudest of?
- If you could hold on to memories from your life forever, which would they be?
- How has your life been different than what you'd imagined?
- How would you like to be remembered?
- What does your future hold?
- What traditions have been passed down in your family?
- If this was to be our very last conversation, is there anything you'd want to say to me?
- If you could interview anyone from your life living or dead, but not a celebrity, who would it be and why?
- Describe the work that you do.
- Tell me about how you got into your line of work.
- What lessons has your work life taught you?
- Do you have a love of your life?
- What lessons have you learned from your relationships?
- Who were the "ones that got away" in your life?
- What was the hardest break up you've ever experienced?

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

- Where did you grow up?
- What was your childhood like?
- Who were your favourite relatives?
- Do you remember any of the stories your parents/grandparents used to tell you?
- What were your parents like?
- Do you have a partner (or spouse) and if so, how did you meet them? How did you meet your spouse/partner? How did you know they were “the one”?
- Do you have children? If so, How has being a parent changed you? And, what advice would you give your child about raising their own kids?
- What is one of your best memories of childhood? Worst?
- Do you have any favourite stories from your childhood?
- When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
- Was there a teacher or teachers who had a particularly strong influence on your life?