

Get the Grandkids Involved

One of the challenges of being a grandparent is the realization that you have less time to share memories and opportunities to leave your legacy with your grandkids. There are countless ways to maximize your time with your loved ones, but what's most important is ensuring that you leave a positive, lasting impression by sharing or creating family traditions so that the next generation knows about their family and legacy.

Create special memories or activities with each grandchild.

Spend time learning about each of your grandchildren's interests and find ways to pursue them together. Go to a baseball game if they are a sports fan, become pen pals if they live far away or enjoy crafts by creating homemade cards together. The activity is less important, but what matters most is that you are spending one-on-one time together, as those memories are the most special.



Share stories of your own childhood so they know about your life before they were born.

Take the time to pass along favorite stories of your childhood and find ways to integrate pictures or toys to help bring your stories to life.

Some conversation starter ideas:



**What was the
best gift you received
as a child?**



**What was
your favorite family
vacation?**



**What was
your most cherished
toy as a child?**



**Who were
your childhood
best friends?**



Invite your grandkids to join you during one of your favorite hobbies.

Find kid-friendly ways to have them join you in doing something you love. If you enjoy playing golf, take them mini-golfing. Teach them how to play tennis if you are a fan. Sharing a passion of yours is a great way to keep your legacy alive when you are gone.

Specify in your will items for each grandchild to receive so they have a memento to keep your memory alive.

Include a note with the items so that your grandchild knows the meaning of the item and why you want them to have it.

Some possible mementos:



Books



Toys



Jewelry



Pictures



Clothing



Include in your funeral planning ways you want the grandchildren to be involved.

Death is an inevitability, so prepare for this by thinking of ways you want your grandchildren to be involved in your memorialization. You could have them do a reading, perform a song or write a poem.

Some possible ways to involve your grandchildren:



Pallbearer



Reading



Recite poem



Greet guests



Perform song or musical instrument



Artwork



Place flowers graveside

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