

# Eulogy Template

The parts in CAPITAL LETTERS are headings that show you the structure of the funeral speech. You *don't* include them in your speech.

## INTRODUCTION

A famous writer once said “We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give”.

If that is true, then \_\_\_\_\_ (name of deceased) made a great life. He/She was the most giving person I've ever known. And judging from the nodding heads I see in front of me, it seems that many of you agree.

## EARLY LIFE

\_\_\_\_\_ (name) was born \_\_\_\_\_ (full birth name) on \_\_\_\_\_ (their birthdate) in \_\_\_\_\_ (city). He/She was the \_\_\_\_\_ (first, second, only) child of \_\_\_\_\_ (name of loved one's father) and \_\_\_\_\_ (name of loved one's mother). They lived in \_\_\_\_\_ (city) from \_\_\_\_\_ (year) to \_\_\_\_\_ (year), and later moved to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## SCHOOLING AND WORK

\_\_\_\_\_ (name) went to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (name of schools) and graduated with \_\_\_\_\_ (name of degree or training). He/She then went to work for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of company) as a \_\_\_\_\_ (name of position). Over the years, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) also worked for \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (name of other companies) OR also worked in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (type of job, e.g. sales, teaching, farming, homemaking).

## MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

In \_\_\_\_\_ (year) \_\_\_\_\_ (name) met \_\_\_\_\_ (name of spouse) and they were married \_\_\_\_\_ (number) years later. Eventually they had \_\_\_\_\_ (number) children, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (names of their children). Last year, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (spouse's name) celebrated their \_\_\_\_\_ (number, e.g. 50th) wedding anniversary.

## HOBBIES AND SERVICE

\_\_\_\_\_ (name) was very active in the \_\_\_\_\_ (church, community, local theatre, quilting, volunteer firefighting). He/She devoted many hours to \_\_\_\_\_ (hobby or service) and was known for \_\_\_\_\_ (what person was known for in the hobby or service, e.g. her exquisite quilt designs; always being ready with a helping hand; always having a positive attitude).

## MEMORIES

I asked family and friends to tell me what they remember most about \_\_\_\_\_ (name). There are so many good memories. \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_. (list 5 or 6 memories in short sentence form, e.g. Playing music together. Fishing at Ajax Lake. His big hearty laugh. The time we went to Disneyland and Susie got lost).

One that I remember in particular is the time when \_\_\_\_\_ (tell a longer story that illustrates your loved one's personality – this can be a heart-warming story or a humorous story).

## SUMMING UP

\_\_\_\_\_ (name) was a remarkably \_\_\_\_\_ (an adjective, e.g. good; thoughtful; hardworking; fun-loving) person. He/She was a person of great \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (two words that describe the person's character, e.g. devotion, integrity, love, compassion, service, humor).

Above all, \_\_\_\_\_ (name) believed in \_\_\_\_\_ (the person's highest value, e.g. family, faith, hard work, independence, community, compassion). He/She always said "\_\_\_\_\_ " (a common saying that illustrates the person's highest value, e.g. "family is the most important thing in life"; "you get out of life what you put into it"; "life is short, so enjoy it while you can!")

Those are words of wisdom that I will always cherish.

In closing, I would like to share this poem with you:

Do not stand at my grave and weep,  
I am not there, I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.  
I am the diamond glint on snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.  
I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you wake in the morning hush,  
I am the swift, uplifting rush  
Of quiet birds in circling flight.  
I am the soft starlight at night.

Do not stand at my grave and weep.  
I am not there, I do not sleep.

\_\_\_\_\_, (name) thank you for being part of our lives. We are all going to miss you.