



How do I write an obituary?

The following is a guideline only. You know the person best and need to decide what applies and what does not. Ideally the obituary accurately reflects, not just statistical information, but actually gives readers a feel for who the person really was.

The first paragraph may include the following information: Name, Age, City of residence, Date of death, Place of death.

The second section can include the following information: Date of birth, Birthplace, Marriage and Spouse, Parents' names, Residential history, Educational accomplishments, Military service, Which war they served in, Where stationed if overseas.

The next section is who the person really is and what they may have accomplished: Post high school education, Degrees earned, Licenses held, Work history, Church membership and organizations within the church, Civic memberships, Fraternal memberships, Club memberships. (With all of the above, you could include any positions or offices the person may have held) Hobbies, Favorite activities and Other interests.

The next section is a list of survivors in appropriate order: Spouse, Children, Grandchildren, Parents, Grandparents, Brothers, Sisters, Nephews, Nieces, Cousins & Companions. List family that preceded him/her in death.

Next section is for the service: Include day, date, time and place of service. Place of burial or entombment.

Last paragraph can list the funeral home:

The name of the funeral home can be listed in case anyone needs to ask additional questions regarding service times and locations, memorial donations or floral suggestions. They can also be directed to the Mt. Scott Funeral Home website where you may add a more personalized obituary.

Please see the back of this page for an example.

Mt. Scott Funeral Home will add an online obituary to our website free of charge. A color picture and any length of obituary is permissible. It is easily linkable to all social media. There is a guest book which allows friends and family around the world to send condolences, leave personal expressions, and share their memories. www.mtsfh.com

Brett Steven Smith was born in Santa Monica, California on August 19, 1924 to Marc Merle Smith and Susan Elizabeth Smith – the 2nd of four children. The family moved to the Portland area in 1940. In 1942 he graduated from David Douglas High School.

In 1943, Brett enlisted in the Navy. After a year at Oregon State University, he was shipped overseas. Soon after he returned home from the war, he met Mary Jones – the love of his life. They were married on July 1, 1947. They purchased a large lot in the Sellwood area and Brett built two homes on the property, a cozy two bedroom and then the larger family home in which they raised their 6 children. Brett worked as an electrician at Portland General Electric until his retirement in 1986.

Brett and his family were members of Ascension Catholic Church where he played the drums in the church band. All 6 children went to Ascension Grade School. Like Brett, his children graduated from David Douglas High School. Brett was a hard-working man who selflessly provided for his family.

Brett enjoyed taking the family camping, hiking, kayaking, swimming, and skiing. He spent endless hours on the sidelines and in bleachers watching his children, then grandchildren, in their various sports. He loved spending time with his family and especially enjoyed all holidays where everyone could be together. He and Mary enjoyed going to their beach house in Rockaway, surrounded by their kids and grandkids. Brett was a kind-hearted, gentle man who never spoke an ill word to, or about, anyone. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, love of making people laugh, and fondness of all animals. He was a devoted son, husband, father, and grandfather. Brett is survived by his 6 children, Rudy (Sharon), Alexandria James (Jared), Stephanie Maxwell (John), Brian (Tina), Dennis (Kathy), and Rebecca Green (Randy); 22 grandchildren, and 32 great-grandchildren. Ed is preceded in death by his loving wife, Mary; his parents, his sister, Laura; and his two brothers, Greg and Scott.

A rosary will be held Friday, May 10, at 11 AM with a Funeral Mass at 11:30 AM at Ascension Catholic Church. There will be a reception following in the parish hall. Private Interment with military honors will be held at Willamette National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Special Olympics of Oregon or the Oregon Humane Society.