

# Une Belle Vie's Obituary Questionnaire

In order to help you ensure that you capture all of the important details when you're celebrating the life of your loved one in writing, we've put together this questionnaire that will help you gather the information you'll need to write an informative and accurate obituary.

Remember, the purpose of an obituary is not to simply announce the death and funeral arrangements of the deceased. The idea is to honor and celebrate their lives. So feel free to ask their parents, spouse, children or other loved ones to tell you the funny stories and personal details that will help you to capture something about what made them special. What were their favorite activities? What old sayings did he or she love to quote? What inspired them? What were their professional accomplishments, and what goals were they still working on when they died? How did they make a difference in their community?

## Name and announcement:

- Name, age, and city of residence
- Date and city of death
- Date and city of birth

## Life, family, and survivors:

More detailed obituaries may include a greater range of information about the person's life. How much detail you include may depend on where you plan to publish the obituary, any length requirements, etc. For example, you may wish to include:

- Names of surviving family members
- Names of predeceased family members
- Education
- Employment or career
- Military service (branch, years)
- Community memberships
- Awards or achievements
- Interests and hobbies

## Memorial and service plans:

It is also common to include information about any plans for a memorial or funeral service, such as:

- Date and location of service If services are private, indicate so (for example, "Burial will be private," or "Private services will be held.")
- Whether and where flowers should be sent
- Where donations could be sent in lieu of flowers
- It is possible that the family will need or prefer monetary contributions rather than flowers to help defray the costs of the funeral. If this is the case, include a phrase such as: "In lieu of flowers, please consider the needs of the family" or "contributions suggested to the family," or "the family is requesting financial assistance for the services."

## Moving quotes or inspirational poems the deceased loved:

You may wish to conclude with quote, poem, song lyric or passage of writing that inspired your loved one, or that you feel summarizes something about his or her life.

