

Writing a Eulogy

When asked by the family to deliver a eulogy, consider it a great honour.

They value your insight and relationship with the deceased.



- Write first, review and edit
- Practice the final version; sometimes it helps to do this in front of a mirror to gauge expression and other body language
  - Speak slowly, clearly and audibly
  - Keep it succinct. It's hard to summarize a lifetime of memories but aim for 7-12 minutes.
  - Remember: it's okay to express emotion.

It is important to gather your thoughts and the following headings may serve as a useful guide. You may find that a theme emerges from the thoughts, memories and stories you've gathered, that could help to bring the eulogy together.



Introduce yourself and your relationship to the deceased and/or their family.



When and where was the deceased born; who were/are their parents and immediate family; significant life events (education, work, partnerships/marriage, friendships, etc.



Hobbies, talents, family memories, values and what was meaningful for them, favorite sayings, lessons shared, what made the deceased special.



The impact the individual had on those around them, express a final goodbye or statement about how their legacy will continue.