



CHRISTOPHER *marcs* DESIGN

OBSEQUIES

COMPOSING the LIFE SUMMARY

Composing the life summary, or obituary, for a loved one is one of the most challenging aspects of planning a Celebration of Life. However, this document is crucial as it serves as the official account of your loved one's life and acts as a genealogical reference for future generations. Therefore, families should be diligent and thorough when completing this important document for both memorial and historical purposes.

THE LIFE SUMMARY

WHAT TO INCLUDE

Use the outline below to write your loved one's obituary.

- A. Birth** (Where was your loved one born? You may include Hospital, City, State.)
- B. Parents** (List Parents; Who reared your loved one? You may include occupation of parents)
- C. Siblings** (You may list siblings as part of the life summary or with the survivors.)
- D. Education** (Where was your loved one educated? Include school names, graduation years, and diplomas/degrees earned.)
- E. Confession of Faith** (e.g. Baptism, Confirmation)
- F. Marriage**
- G. Employment and Military** (Where was your loved one employed? How long were they employed? Did they receive any recognition for their job performance? Did they retire?)
- H. Civic Involvement** (i.e. Sorority/Fraternity, Community/Church Involvement, etc. Include any leadership in community/church organizations)
- I. Accomplishments** (i.e. Awards, Proclamations, Special Recognition, etc.)
- J. Pre-decedents** (i.e. Family members who preceded your loved one in death. Include relationship to loved one.)
- K. Survivors** (List in Next of Kin Order. i.e., Spouse, Children, Grandchildren, Siblings, Aunts, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews)

ORGANIZING YOUR NOTES

You may organize your thoughts in a number of formats. Most families choose a traditional approach and list the facts in chronological order. Some desire a more creative point of view and tell a story. Whichever, format you choose, ensure that your content is comprehensive and accurate.

EDITING

After completing your draft, share the summary with another family member who can verify the content for authenticity. If you do not have access to a relative or friend who can review the document for spelling and grammatical errors, take advantage of technological assistance that can be found online or word processing applications (i.e., ChatGPT, Copilot, Grammarly, etc.).

PUBLISHING

Submit the final draft to the Funeral Director/Graphic Designer for the Program. You may want to format a modified summary for posting Online or in the newspaper. The modified summary may include whatever details you care to publish but should include, at minimum, the following information:

- Service Date
- Service Time
- Service Location
- Floral Tributes or Donations Preference

OBSEQUIES by CHRISTOPHER MARCS DESIGN is the solution for families seeking to honor their loved one significantly by “marc”ing the celebration of life service with custom elements including announcements, programs, digital graphics including slideshow covers, and acknowledgment cards. Choosing a professional designer for these services allows the family to present other loved ones and guests with a custom keepsake while ensuring that these designs are planned, designed, and executed in a timely manner using quality materials and production equipment. Each page is crafted with keen creative sensitivity and care.

VIEW PREVIOUS DESIGNS at www.christophermarcsdesign.com/obsequies



the DIFFERENCE
is *in the* DETAILS

