

Write Your Own Obituary

In addition to planning your funeral service, consider writing your own obituary. Writing your obituary while you are still in good health and of sound mind will accomplish several things. First, it will make you aware of God's provision and blessing as you reflect upon your life. Second, it will spare your family the burden of composing an obituary for you immediately following your death. Third, it will give you an opportunity to involve your family in the process of writing your obituary, which may lead to discussions and insights about your life together that may prove valuable.

Here is some basic information to cover when writing your obituary:

- 1. Begin with your full name, date of birth and leave space for the date of your death.
- 2. Reflect upon the story of your life and write about the highlights and memorable events. What do you want people to remember about you?
- 3. List family members.
- 4. Add information concerning charitable contributions, if applicable.
- 5. Select a photo of yourself.
- 6. Ask someone who knows you well to read over what you wrote and ask for their suggestions about how to improve it.
- 7. Share the final version with a few family members and/or keep it with other important documents.