



FREE PRINTABLE WORKSHEET

Obituary Worksheet

Gather every name, date and memory in one place, then write the obituary whenever you're ready.

How to use this worksheet. Fill in what you know and skip what you don't. It's fine to do it over several sittings, or to pass it around the family so everyone can add what they remember. Nothing here is required. A single paragraph is a complete obituary.

1 The basics

The only must-haves are a full name, an age or dates, and where they lived.

Full name _____

Nickname or name they went by _____

Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

Date of death _____ Age _____

City or town where they lived _____

Parents' names (if wanted) _____

How would you like to describe how they died? (optional)

☐ Peacefully ☐ Suddenly ☐ After a period of illness ☐ Name the cause ☐ Leave it out

2 Family to list

Usual order: spouse or partner, children, grandchildren, siblings, parents. Chosen family and pets are welcome.

Survived by (name)	Relationship	Their partner (optional)

Predeceased by (name)	Relationship

3 Their story

Specific details stay with readers far longer than words like "loving" or "kind." Jot notes, not sentences.

Work, career or the things they spent their days on

Places that mattered (hometowns, a cabin, a favourite trip)

Hobbies, teams, music, causes they cared about

Something they always said, cooked, fixed or insisted on

One short story that could only be about them

Faith, community or groups they belonged to (only if it mattered to them)

Tone that fits them

☐ Warm and traditional ☐ Short and plain-spoken ☐ Light, with a bit of humour

4 Service details

☐ Visitation ☐ Funeral ☐ Celebration of life ☐ Private service ☐ Date to be announced

Date _____ Time _____

Location _____

In lieu of flowers, donations to _____

Where the obituary will be published _____

Who will check names and dates before it goes out _____

Anything else to include (a poem, a thank-you to caregivers, a note about pets)

When you're ready for the next step

The full guide, with a fill-in template and three example obituaries, is at gokanagan.porthosmedia.net.

Porthos Media helps families turn old photos, tapes and film into tribute videos, slideshows and memorial websites, with no pressure and no timeline. Reach us at porthosmedia.net/contact or 250-801-9536.