

Obituary Template

Below is a template with ideas for what to include with each section as well as a sample for *Jane Doe*. The template has three sections:

1. [Birth, Family, and Education](#)
2. [Relationships, Careers, and Hobbies](#)
3. [Legacy, Family, and Donations](#)

Birth, Family, and Education

Content to include in this section

- Information about spouse or partner, including date of marriage or significant milestones
- Names of children and close family members
- Overview of career or professional life
- Hobbies, interests, volunteer service
- Key personality traits or values they were known for

Sample

Jane Marie Doe (Jane Smith), 79, passed away peacefully on January 3, 2024, at her home in Seattle, Washington, surrounded by her loved ones. Jane had bravely battled a long illness with grace and quiet strength.

She was born on November 12, 1945, in Seattle to John and Mary Smith. Raised on Queen Anne Hill, Jane's early years were filled with books, outdoor adventures, and afternoons helping her mother in the garden. She attended Queen Anne High School, graduating in 1963, where she was an enthusiastic member of the school's quilting society and science club.

Jane continued her studies at Washington State University, earning a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science. Her time at WSU deepened her commitment to environmental stewardship and set the stage for a lifelong career in ecological research and education. She later completed additional certifications in environmental remediation and field education.



Your Content: Birth, Family, and Education



Relationships, Careers, and Hobbies

Content to include in this section

- Information about spouse or partner, including date of marriage or significant milestones
- Names of children and close family members
- Overview of career or professional life
- Hobbies, interests, volunteer service
- Key personality traits or values they were known for

Sample

In 1967, Jane met Andy Doe at a conservation conference, and their connection was immediate. They were married in the summer of 1969 and shared 45 wonderful years together before Andy's passing in 2014. Together, they raised three children—Joe, May, and Kate—instilling in them a love for nature, learning, and compassion.

Jane dedicated much of her professional life to environmental science. She began in research and policy, working with state agencies and nonprofit organizations to restore natural habitats in the Pacific Northwest. In the latter part of her career, she returned to WSU as a beloved professor, teaching environmental science for 16 years. Her classroom was known for its hands-on learning, passionate lectures, and spontaneous nature walks.

Beyond her career, Jane loved kayaking along the Puget Sound, camping under the stars, and birdwatching with her grandchildren. She traveled extensively, often combining her love of the outdoors with her curiosity for new cultures. She was also an active volunteer in local community gardens and environmental education programs for youth. Friends and family remember Jane for her adventurous spirit, quiet wit, and boundless generosity.



Your Content: Relationships, Careers, and Hobbies



Legacy, Family, and Donations

Content to include in this section

- Major accomplishments or community involvement
- Names of surviving family members (parents, spouse, children, siblings, grandchildren, etc.)
- Celebration of life, funeral or memorial service details
- In lieu of flowers, suggestions for donations or ways to offer tributes or honor their memory

Sample

Jane leaves behind a legacy of curiosity, kindness, and environmental stewardship. She inspired countless students and colleagues with her deep knowledge and love for the natural world. In her community, she was a mentor, a volunteer, and a friend—always ready to lend a hand or share an interesting fact about local wildlife.

She is survived by her three children: Joe (Frank) of Seattle, May (Al) of Everett, and Kate (Jill) of San Diego; her five grandchildren, whom she adored; her loyal Australian Shepherd, Mo; and a wide circle of friends, former students, and colleagues.

A private ceremony will be held at Recompose, a setting that reflects Jane's commitment to natural harmony and ecological values.

In lieu of flowers, Jane would love it if you made a donation to some of the organizations she supported: [Washington Trails Association](#), [Birds Connect Seattle](#), or the [Recompose Community Fund](#).

Your Content: Legacy, Family, and Donations

