



Could Your Family Answer These 100 Questions If You Died Tonight?

A reality check every family should read and a reminder why planning ahead matters.

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The First 48 Hours: Immediate Decisions

Funeral home preference

- Service type (religious, fraternal, military, etc)
- Cemetery arrangements & interment space
- Time and place for visitation or service
- Provide information for eulogy
- Select casket, urn, or burial vault
- Clothing and appearance of the deceased
- Music and readings
- Certified copies of death certificate



People to Notify

Family and friends
Employer or business partners

- Social Security & Veterans Administration
- Insurance agents and attorneys



Critical Documents

Will and estate plan
Insurance policies
Property deeds and vehicle titles

- Bank accounts and login details
- Tax returns and business records



Expenses and Payments

Funeral and burial costs
Clergy, musicians, florists, transportation

- Mortgage, taxes, and utilities
- Credit cards and loans



Vital Statistics & Personal Details

Full legal name, birth date and social security number

- Parents' names and birthplaces
- Children and grandchildren info
- Military service, education, and occupation

Some Secrets Shouldn't Be Taken to the Grave™

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Introduction

When someone dies, the people they love are left with grief, confusion, and over 100 decisions to make — many within the first 48 hours. Most of these questions can be answered, organized, and documented long before the time of need. That's why we created the *Legacy Vault*™, a secure digital place where you and your family can prepare now and find peace later. Ask yourself as you read through this list: Could my family answer all of these questions right now?

Decisions To Be Made:

1. Funeral Home preference
2. Service type (religious, fraternal, military, etc.)
3. Make Cemetery arrangements
4. Secure interment space and get exact location of burial/disposition.
5. Arrange for opening and closing of the grave / mausoleum / niche space
6. Arrange graveside committal service
7. Secure use of cemetery chapel for committal prayers
8. Decide on embalming and other preparation of deceased
9. Location of funeral service
10. Time and place for visitation and funeral service
11. Arrange for special religious services
12. Provide information for eulogy
13. Select casket (open or closed?)
14. Select outer burial container and/or burial vault
15. Select urn / niche space (if cremation)
16. Provide vital statistics about deceased for newspaper
17. Clothing for deceased
18. Jewelry and glasses for deceased
19. Select cosmetology and hairdressing for deceased
20. Selection of scripture & readings (poems, etc.)
21. Clergy to officiate
22. Marking of grave (either temporary or permanent)
23. Select memorial marker/monument setting and inscription.
24. Select charitable contributions for memorials in memory of deceased
25. Register book, memorial/prayer cards
26. Select pallbearers
27. Floral arrangements and transportation before and after services
28. Select music
29. Organist / Pianist / Vocalist
30. Arrange limousine for family and pallbearers
31. Arrange funeral car list for family and guests
32. Clothing for you and minor children

33. Decide who will look after minor children and/or pets
34. House cleaning
35. Extra chairs
36. Transportation for family & guests
37. Reviewing & signing all paperwork (i.e. burial permit)
38. Answering innumerable phone calls, emails, letters and wires
39. Necessary meetings with funeral director, lawyer, clergy, cemetery
40. Decide how many certified copies of death certificate to order
41. Items for memento display and/or memorial board
42. Decide on memorial video production, pictures, music, etc.
43. Arrange for writing thank you notes

To Be Notified:

44. All family members
45. All relatives
46. All friends
47. Minister and church
48. Funeral Director
49. Pallbearers
50. Cemetery
51. Doctor
52. Employer of deceased
53. Employers of relatives not going to work
54. Organist, musicians, vocalists,
55. Newspapers regarding notices
56. Social Security Administration
57. Veterans Administration
58. Insurance agents
59. Religious, fraternal, civic organizations & unions
60. Attorney, accountant, financial planner & executor of estate
61. Credit card companies

Things That Must Be Paid:

62. Estate/Inheritance taxes
63. Funeral expenses
64. Purchase of family burial estate, mausoleum crypt, cremation niche
65. Family burial estate, mausoleum crypt, cremation niche opening and closing costs

66. Permanent memorialization
67. Monument / Marker engraving
68. Funeral Director
69. Clergy
70. Organist and vocalist
71. Florist
72. Obituary
73. Clothing
74. Food
75. Transportation
76. Current & urgent bills (mortgage/rent, taxes, installment payments, etc.)

Critical Papers and Documents:

77. Will/Trust (check will regarding special wishes)
78. Prepare legal papers, certificates and permits
79. Birth Certificate/legal proof of age
80. Citizenship papers
81. Social Security card or number
82. Marriage license
83. Veteran's discharge certificate
84. Submit insurance policies (life, health, accident, property, auto) and government forms
85. Disability claims
86. Bank books and listing of accounts
87. Other financial accounts
88. Property deeds
89. Cemetery deed or proof of ownership
90. Auto titles or bill of sale
91. Income tax returns, receipts & cancelled checks

Vital Statistics:

92. Full legal name, complete address, telephone number and email
93. Religious name (if any)
94. Date of birth
95. Place of birth
96. Marital Status Name of spouse (if married)
97. Spouse's maiden name (if wife)
98. Educational attainment
99. Citizenship (US/Canadian/Mexican)
100. Father's name

101. Father's birthplace
102. Mother's name and maiden name
103. Mother's birthplace
104. Number and full names and addresses of all children /grandchildren / great grandchildren
105. Social Security number
106. Veteran's Serial/Service number
107. Date & place of service, date of discharge
108. How long at current residence/former residence(s)
109. Occupation, job title, nature of work & employment history
110. Location of workplace, telephone number and email

Let's Take A Closer Look At The:

First
48
Hours

The First 48 Hours: Immediate Decisions

- **Funeral home preference**

Without a clear choice, families scramble to find a provider while in shock. Pre-selecting one saves time, stress, and emotional cost.

- **Service type (religious, fraternal, military, etc.)**

Your beliefs and values matter. Defining them prevents confusion and ensures your service reflects your wishes.

- **Cemetery arrangements and interment space**

Cemetery space can take days to secure. When prearranged, your family can focus on honoring you, not logistics.

- **Time and place for visitation or service**

These decisions must be made quickly. Preplanning avoids scheduling conflicts and emotional overload.

- **Information for eulogy**

Your story deserves to be told the right way. Notes and stories in your Vault guide loved ones under pressure.

- **Select casket, urn, or burial vault**

Emotional spending is common. Documenting your choice prevents guilt-driven overspending.

- **Clothing and appearance of the deceased**

A simple detail, but deeply personal. You can decide this once, clearly, and save your family from guessing.

- **Music and readings**

These moments make a service meaningful. Without notes, families struggle to pick what you loved most.

- **Certified copies of death certificate**

Dozens of entities require originals. Knowing how many to order prevents delays and repeat paperwork.

People to Notify

- Family and friends

They need to know — and know quickly. Having names, numbers, and relationships documented saves emotional exhaustion.

- Employer or business partners

Without notice, benefits and responsibilities can be lost. A clear contact list prevents confusion.

- Social Security & Veterans Administration

Timely reporting prevents benefit loss or overpayments.

- Insurance agents and attorneys

Quick notification speeds up claims and probate. Without it, families can wait months for resolution.

***A simple list today prevents weeks of
heartache tomorrow.***

***The Legacy Vault™ removes all of this
uncertainty, giving your loved ones
confidence when they need it most.***

Expenses and Payments

- Funeral and burial costs

Average costs exceed \$10,000. Documenting preferences prevents emotional overspending.

- Clergy, musicians, florists, transportation

Clear planning ensures services reflect your wishes — without surprise costs.

- Mortgage, taxes, and utilities

Bills continue even in grief. Listing accounts avoids missed payments and penalties.

- Credit cards and loans

Collectors won't wait. Documentation prevents financial stress and damaged credit.

***When finances are clear, grief doesn't
turn into crisis.***

Critical Documents

- Will and estate plan

Without them, the state decides who gets what. Your Vault ensures your wishes are followed exactly.

- Insurance policies

Over \$7B in life insurance goes unclaimed annually because families don't know policies exist.

- Property deeds and vehicle titles

Needed for ownership transfers. Missing documents can cause delays and extra legal fees.

- Bank accounts and login details

Locked accounts and forgotten passwords cause chaos. Secure storage means access when it's needed most.

- Tax returns and business records

Essential for estate filings and protection from fraud. Organized now means fewer headaches later.

The Legacy Vault™ prevents the scavenger hunt no family should face.

Vital Statistics & Personal Details

- Full legal name, birth date, and SSN

These details are required for all legal filings and death certificates. Missing them causes costly delays.

- Parents' names and birthplaces

Required for records and obituary accuracy. Mistakes here create bureaucratic headaches.

- Children and grandchildren info

Needed for estate settlement, legal filings, and family connection.

- Military service, education, and occupation

These details matter for honors, benefits, and how your story is remembered.

Every life is unique.

The Vault makes sure your story, and your legacy, are complete.

The Missing Piece to a Complete Estate Plan™

Can your loved ones answer these questions today?

If not, this is exactly why the *Legacy Vault™* exists.

Plan today. Protect tomorrow.

Make things easier for those you love.



Contact us today we are here to help.

**Cynthia Tirado
Notary Dynamics
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The Scavenger Hunt Ends Here!™