**Basic steps for writing a eulogy:**

1. Write a brief summary of events in the dead person’s life. Do not dwell on the minute details, just touch on a few of the most significant occurrences.

2. Write down your favorite memories of the deceased. This may overlap with the first directive depending on how close you were to the deceased.

3. Be positive – this is not the place to unload all of the bad things about the person.

4. It is okay to include things that the deceased person loved – music (like Antophus), poetry, art, etc. You may choose to include something that the deceased wrote.

**\*Why write a eulogy?**

**Why can't I simply stand up and talk letting inspiration carry me through?**

The answer is that for many people giving any type of speech without conscious preparation is a challenge. We tend to drift off topic or lose the thread connecting our ideas.

Preparation will give your eulogy form - a definite pattern. It will help you contain and convey your emotions without being overwhelmed by them.

Without the safety of form your funeral speech may become a ramble with no obvious purpose or direction. That is distressing for everybody: the speaker and the hearers.

Taking the time to fully prepare your eulogy is the safest way to express all you want to, the way you want to.

**\*How?**

A eulogy is like a mirror or reflection. We listen to the stories told to hear and see in our imagination what the life of our loved one was all about. We want to understand, to have it make sense to us.

A eulogy may not provide answers to difficult questions but it allows us to focus more clearly.

A memorable funeral speech prepared with loving care celebrates the
*whole person*: their strengths, their joys, challenges and achievements. At a time when many are emotionally fragile your courage to stand in front of friends and family will be deeply appreciated.

The answers to those questions put you, the eulogy giver, in context which is important to those listening. If they don't know, they'll want to know how you fitted into the life of the person you are celebrating.

\*Obtained from a Google search