

You do not have to fit a whole life into the first sentence.

The form asks for names, dates and service details. You want the notice to sound like a person, and you still have to get the facts right.

Work from a checked fact sheet to a usable notice. Four working sheets cover facts, names and privacy, the draft itself and the final proof. An annotated fictional notice shows how one ordinary detail can make the person visible without turning the page into a biography.

- Build the factual opening before polishing the wording.
- Choose names, omissions and one personal detail.
- Distinguish public service information from private arrangements.

Tessa Alderwick

Guide + working sheets

WRITE A CLEAR, PERSONAL OBITUARY

Gather the Facts, Choose One Telling Detail, and Prepare the Notice



Checked facts. A person, not a résumé.

TESSA ALDERWICK