

Honoring Your Loved One In Print

Your Guide for Writing and Submitting
a Personalized Obituary

From the staff at

The News-Gazette



The News-Gazette
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Rate for paid obituaries

6 cents per character (about \$11 per column inch). The character count comprises each letter, space and punctuation mark.

Local funeral homes

Please sign in at our website. We do not accept obituaries by phone, fax or e-mail.

Other funeral homes

Please call 217-351-5220 (weekdays) or 217-351-5211 (weekends).

Your Guide to Personalized Obituaries

A personalized obituary offers you the opportunity to memorialize your loved one in your own words. Through a personalized obituary, you can share thoughts about your loved one by writing about the personality, the relationships, the accomplishments, the interests, the associations that made up the tapestry of his or her life.

This booklet explains the options for obituaries in The News-Gazette and gives you a checklist and suggestions for writing personalized obituaries. Your funeral director also may be able to offer you advice.

The guide also explains our policies for handling these memorials and our rates.

Obituary Policy

The News-Gazette accepts death notices and obituaries from funeral homes, cremation societies or comparable entities that are in charge of arrangements. We do not accept obituary information directly from family members except when no funeral professionals are involved. In such circumstances, we must confirm the death through an independent source such as a coroner, police or minister.

To Ensure Accuracy

Please confirm the spellings of all names and accuracy of dates. If possible, show the written obituary to other family members to get their comments and suggestions. Family members and friends may be able to provide memories to include in the obituary.

You are creating a historical record. Years from now, others will read this obituary to learn more about their family or to do genealogical research. Accuracy in all details is extremely important.

Types of Obituaries We Publish

1) *Death Notice*

We will publish a free death notice if services have not yet been arranged. A death notice is a single paragraph that includes name, age, town and funeral home in charge of services.

Michael Simsam

URBANA — Michael A. Simsam, 76, of Urbana died Friday (Nov. 17, 2006) in Peoria. Funeral arrangements were incomplete at Renner-Wikoff Chapel, 1900 Philo Road, U.

A death notice:

- Is free.
- Gets the news in the paper, giving the family time to make funeral arrangements.

Types of Obituaries We Publish

2) *Basic Obituary*

We will publish for free a brief obituary for anyone who has lived in our circulation area. This option is limited to two paragraphs. The first paragraph will include a dateline, name, age, time, day and date of death and place of death.

The second paragraph will include the time and place of services and visitation and the place of burial. The name of the funeral home handling arrangements also will be included if the services are elsewhere.

Our circulation area includes the following counties: Champaign, Vermilion, Piatt, Ford, Douglas, and portions of Macon, McLean, Iroquois, Coles, Edgar and Moultrie.

Bernice Prammery

PAXTON — Bernice V. Prammery, 55, of Paxton died at 7:30 p.m. Monday (Oct. 30, 2006) at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday at First United Methodist Church, 210 W. Church St., C. The Rev. Terry Harter will officiate. Burial will be in Villa Grove Cemetery, Villa Grove. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Knapp-Miller Funeral Home, 142 W. Patton St., Paxton.

A basic obituary:

- Is free.
- Is limited to two paragraphs.
- Does not include survivors or any personal information.

A dateline is the uppercase town or city that begins the first paragraph of a newspaper story. In the example above, PAXTON is the dateline.

When choosing a dateline, use the local hometown. If the person no longer lived in East Central Illinois, consider using the local town the person used to live in.

Types of Obituaries We Publish

3) Personalized Obituary

You may also submit a personalized obituary, through a funeral home, and express in your own words who your loved one was. Such an obituary could focus solely on biographical information. Or it could express your loved one’s devotion to faith or emphasize a sense of humor.

The cost is 6 cents per character — about \$11 a column inch. We also will accept photos; please see page 9 about photo guidelines. A photo is an additional \$10.

We will include a black-and-white American flag at no charge for veterans of the U.S. armed forces.

All obituaries published in The News-Gazette also will be displayed on our website, www.news-gazette.com. For personalized obituaries, a guest book will be added on our website where friends and families can express condolences.

Personalized obituary:

■ Is paid for through the funeral home

■ Says what you want.

■ Will undergo light editing.

Harv Temmons

RANTOUL — Harvin Temmons, 70, of Rantoul died Sunday (Dec. 10, 2006) at home.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Malachy Catholic Church, 311 E. Grove St., Rantoul. The Rev. Stanley Malinowski will officiate. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rantoul.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Lux Memorial Chapel, 1551 E. Grove Ave., Rantoul.

Mr. Temmons was born Jan. 15, 1930, in Thomasboro, a son of Martin and Virginia Smith Temmons. He married Mary Lumms on July 13, 1936, in Rantoul. She survives.

Survivors also include

three sons, Thomas Temmons and Martin Temmons, both of Rantoul, and Daniel Temmons of Thomasboro; two daughters, Christie Adamsen of Urbana and Bette Scot of Indianapolis; a sister, Helen Marie Smythe of Dewey; and eight grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by two brothers and two sisters.

Mr. Temmons served in the Navy during the Korean War. He later worked for the University of Illinois for 31 years. He was a member of St. Malachy Catholic Church.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.



No charge for flag

1,074 characters = \$64.44

Checklist for creating an obituary

Be sure to provide the following basic information:

- Full name and age.
- Time and place of death.
- Birth date.
- Dateline.
- Parents' names.
- Marriage date and name of spouse.
- Survivors including names of children, siblings and parents. If you wish, include grandchildren, in-laws, nieces and nephews, companions and caregivers.
- Life history including occupation, memberships, interests, activities and accomplishments.
- Services including time, day, place of the funeral, time, day and place of visitation, place of burial, officiants and memorial information. Include addresses if possible.

Harv Temmons

RANTOUL — Harvin Temmons 70, of Rantoul died Sunday (Dec. 10, 2006) at home.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Friday at St. Malachy Catholic Church, 311 E. Grove St., Rantoul. The Rev. Stanley Malinowski will officiate. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Rantoul.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Lux Memorial Chapel, 1551 E. Grove Ave., Rantoul.

Mr. Temmons was born Jan. 15, 1930, in Thomasboro, a son of Martin and Virginia Smith. He married Mary Lumms on July 13, 1936, in Rantoul. She survives.

Survivors also include his four children and their families: Thomas and Betsy Temmons of Rantoul and their three children, Richard, Francis and Amanda; Martin Tem-

mons and Jane Austin of Rantoul and their two daughters, Anna and Chelsea; Christie and Bruce Adamsen of Urbana; and Elizabeth and Charles Scot of Indianapolis.

He is also survived by a sister and brother-in-law, Helen Marie and George Smythe of Dewey.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Benjamin Temmons, and one sister, Lola Temmons.

Mr. Temmons served in the Navy during the Korean War. He later worked for the University of Illinois for 31 years. He was a member of St. Malachy Catholic Church.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association.



If you wish, include in-laws' names.

You may also add names of loved ones who are deceased.

1,260 characters = \$75.60

Adding special touches

Here are samples of the type of expressions that you might include in a personalized obituary.

She was a devoted wife and mother. Her laughter and joyful spirit will be missed. You were more than my wife: You were my best friend.

He loved gardening, furniture refinishing and fishing. Although the quiet hero is gone, the legacy he left will live forever in the hearts of those he touched.

Because she loved to help people, Bess chose to be an organ donor.

No one liked a good joke better than he did and he told them often. He even liked the bad ones and told them often, also.

She graciously accepted the fact that her only grandchildren would have four legs, a tail and a bark.

He always said he could weld anything but a broken heart or the crack of dawn.

Faith, cause of death and nontraditional survivors are examples of what can be included in a personalized obituary.

Lula Bergmond

CHAMPAIGN – Lula Bergmond, 77, of Champaign passed away Saturday (Dec. 30, 2006) at home after a long battle with lung cancer.

Mrs. Bergmond was born April 3, 1929, in Bloomington, a daughter of Lawrence and Elizabeth Johnson Smith. She married Herman Bergmond on June 3, 1949, in Farmer City. He died Oct. 20, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Julie Marie Anderson of Chicago, and her husband, Philip, and their three children, Aiden, Caitlin and Anna; a son, Russell Joseph Bergmond of Urbana, and his wife, Melinda, and their daughter, Sarah; a sister, Bonnie Smithson of Davenport, Iowa, and her husband, Frederick; and her devoted caregiver, Gwen McCarthy.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brother, Charles Smith;

and a sister, Nora Wilson.

A lifelong member of the Lutheran faith, Mrs. Bergmond put God first in her life, devoted her time to family and church projects. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and sang in the choir.

Mrs. Bergmond was educated in the Bloomington schools and attended the University of Illinois, where she met her future husband.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church, 509 S. Mattis Ave., C. The Rev. Marvin Flowers will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Champaign.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Heath & Vaughn Funeral Home, 201 N. Elm St., C.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church or the Barnes Jewish Hospital Foundation in St. Louis.

1,492 characters = \$89.52

Photographs

For an additional \$10, we will publish a half-column picture of your loved one with the personalized obituary. Sorry, the picture option is not available with either a death notice or basic obituary.

The picture should be:

- A head-and-shoulders photo.
- Of the deceased only.
- jpeg format, 200 dpi, 4 x 5 inches

Lula Bergmond

CHAMPAIGN – Lula Bergmond, 77, of Champaign passed away Saturday (Dec. 30, 2006) at home after a long battle with lung cancer.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church, 509 S. Mattis Ave., C. The Rev. Marvin Flowers will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Champaign.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Heath & Vaughn Funeral Home, 201 N. Elm St., C.

Mrs. Bergmond was born April 3, 1929, in Bloomington, a daughter of Lawrence and Elizabeth Johnson Smith. She married Herman Bergmond on June 3, 1949, in Farmer City. He died Oct. 20, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Julie Marie Anderson of Chicago, and her husband, Philip, and their three children, Aiden, Caitlin and Anna; a son, Russell Joseph Bergmond of Urbana, and his wife, Melinda, and



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their daughter, Sarah; a sister, Bonnie Smithson of Davenport, Iowa, and her husband, Frederick; and her devoted caregiver, Gwen McCarthy.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brother, Charles Smith; and a sister, Nora Wilson.

A lifelong member of the Lutheran faith, Mrs. Bergmond put God first in her life, devoted her time to family and church projects. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and sang in the choir.

Mrs. Bergmond was educated in the Bloomington schools and attended the University of Illinois, where she met her future husband.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church or the Barnes Jewish Hospital Foundation in St. Louis.

1,492 characters = \$89.52

+ photo \$10.00

Total cost = \$99.52

Louis Bergmond

CHAMPAIGN — Louis Bergmond, 77, of Champaign passed away Saturday (Dec. 30, 2006) at home after a long battle with lung cancer.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church, 509 S. Mattis Ave., C. The Rev. Marvin Flowers will officiate. Burial will be in Roselawn Cemetery, Champaign.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at Morgan Memorial Home, 1304 Regency Drive West, Savoy.

Mr. Bergmond was born April 3, 1929, in Bloomington, a son of Lawrence and Elizabeth Johnson Smith. He married Herriette Smith Bergmond on June 3, 1949, in Farmer City. She died Oct. 20, 2000.

Surviving are a daughter, Julie Marie Anderson of Chicago, and her husband, Philip, and their three children, Aiden, Caitlin and Anna; a son, Russell Joseph Bergmond of Urbana, and his wife, Melinda, and their daughter, Sarah; a sister, Bonnie Smithson of Davenport, Iowa, and her husband, Frederick; and her devoted caregiver, Gwen McCarthy.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Charles Smith; and a sister, Nora Wilson.

Mr. Bergmond graduated from Bloomington High School in 1941. The family was active in the Evangelical Lutheran



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Church of Normal.

He entered the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1941 and in 1945 began serving in the Army in the

Pacific.

He returned to the UI and graduated in 1947. He then enrolled in the law school, graduating in 1950.

Mr. Bergmond practiced law for more than 40 years throughout Illinois, most recently in Champaign. He was a member of American Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Champaign County Bar Association, Illinois Plaintiff Lawyers Association and American Trial Lawyers Association.

He was an active member of St. John Lutheran Church, serving as Sunday school superintendent and was president of the church board for 10 years. He was a volunteer for Provena Covenant Hospice Program and Urbana Adult Education Literacy Program. He was a foster parent for many children and enjoyed reading Civil War books.

He was also a lifelong fan of the St. Louis Cardinals and Fighting Illini sports.

Memorials may be made to St. John Lutheran Church or the Barnes Jewish Hospital Foundation in St. Louis.

2,201 characters = \$132.06

+ photo \$10.00

Total cost = \$142.06

Submitting obituaries

Local funeral homes: Local funeral homes have a sign-on to our secure website. If a funeral home in East Central Illinois does not have a sign-on, the funeral director should contact our managing editor, Dan Corkery, at 217-351-5218.

If a technical problem prevents a funeral home from reaching our website, please call 217-351-5220 or 217-351-5211.

Out-of-town funeral homes: Please call 217-351-5220 Monday-Friday before 3 p.m. Central time zone. One of our newsroom employees will assist you. On weekends and holidays, please call 217-351-5211.

Editing obituaries

Our goal is to honor each family's wishes. However, The News-Gazette retains the responsibility for editing all obituaries. We will not ordinarily change the wording of a personalized obituary, but we will edit for accuracy, spelling, common newspaper style and unacceptable language.

We will notify the funeral home as soon as possible if there is problem with an obituary.

If there is a factual error that the newspaper created, we will rerun the corrected obituary at no charge. (Please note: The editing described above does not itself constitute an error and will not result in a rerun.) If the error is the responsibility of the family or the funeral home, standard rates will apply for a rerun.

Write Your Own Obituary

Who knows your life better than you? If you do write your own obituary, please consider:

- Writing it in electronic form, such as a Microsoft Word file or in an e-mail. That will make it easier for the funeral home to transmit it to us. Retyping your obituary could introduce misspellings or errors.
- Telling your family or loved ones where the obituary is.
- Discussing the obituary with a funeral director, especially if you are pre-arranging services.