Begin with a memory.

You do not need the perfect opening. Collect a few things you can still picture.

The person I am remembering

Their name, your relationship, and a name you naturally called them.

A moment that feels like them

Where were you? What did they do or say? What small detail stays with you?

What this memory helps me remember

A habit, a quality, a way they made somebody feel. Be specific.

A shape for your words.

Fill the spaces in your own voice. You can skip, move, or change any part.

A beginning

Thank you for being here. I am... and [name] was my...

The story I want to tell

When I think of [name], I remember... This shows me...

A goodbye

I will miss... I hope to carry... Thank you for...

Before you speak.

Your words can be simple. Make room to breathe, pause, or ask someone to help.

- [ ] Ask the organizer how much time you have.
- [ ] Read the whole draft aloud, including pauses.
- [ ] At 120 words per minute, 3-5 minutes is about 360-600 words.
- [ ] Cut a repeated point before trying to speak faster.
- [ ] Check names and any private story with the people involved.
- [ ] Print in a comfortable font size and number your pages.
- [ ] Bring water and mark places to pause.
- [ ] Give a second copy to a trusted backup reader.
- [ ] Agree how your backup reader should help if you need a break.
- [ ] Keep a private copy of your speech.

It is okay to stop. It is okay to let someone else read. A eulogy is an act of remembering, not a test of public speaking.

More examples and templates: eulogyfor.com/eulogy-examples

Practical guidance: funeral-directory.co.uk/guides/how-to-write-a-eulogy/