

Make the most out of a

snow  
day

Logical  
Placement<sup>LLC</sup>

## Hello, Friends!

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December 2018 - Your Last Wishes

Since we're nearing the end of the year, this is a good time to talk about our final plans and wishes.

Have you created a document explaining your wishes in case there is an emergency? Your family would appreciate such a plan during their most-distressed times.

If things are laid out and explained, they will have fewer decisions to make and won't wonder if they are making the right choices. The more things are explained, hopefully there is less room for family arguments.

Here are several primary questions you should clearly answer:

- If you have chosen this, your "Do not resuscitate" request, better known as DNR paperwork, should be clearly displayed. These would be chosen if you could not communicate your choices yourself.
- Who is your trustee and where can they find the paperwork? It is very important to choose a trustee who will be fair, honest and follow your wishes. This job should go to the person you think will do this best, no matter whose feelings or pride might be hurt. Sometimes, a non-family member does this best, which might also reduce fights among your children and heirs.
- Do you want palliative care or comfort care over aggressive medical treatment?
- Do you want a funeral or memorial service, and what kind? Religious?
- Do you want a private gathering or a celebration with lots of people?
- Do you want any special songs sung or played? Do you want any special sayings shared?
- Do you want a viewing and for how long and how many days? This could be viewing an embalmed body or a large favorite photo, in the case of cremation.
- Do you want a luncheon after a ceremony, and do you want certain people to speak at it?
- Are there any special customs you want incorporated at your service or gathering?
- This may sound morbid at first, but it is extremely helpful to your surviving family. Write your own obituary so you can express what you were most proud of. Include dates, places you've lived and the different organizations that you belonged to. Read other obituaries and decide which points matter to you.
- Do you want to be cremated or buried and where? Do you want your ashes to remain in a box or dispersed?
- Do you want to make any special donations that you haven't included in your will?
- Are you dividing your jewelry or special, personal pieces (small furniture, books, etc.) among children, grandchildren or others? Make sure items are clearly labeled. Some people include a list of these things in their will, but your trustee will find it to be very helpful if included in your document.
- Simplify your paperwork. Go through your filing cabinet and shred items that are no longer needed, such as old life insurance policies.

Creating this document now and even sharing it with your kids might be helpful when that time comes. And you can start the New Year with a good feeling of accomplishment, too.

Your local professional organizer,

Betty Huotari

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