



ARDENT WORKSHOP

AN ARDENT WORKSHOP PRODUCT

Final Wishes One-Pager

Eleven lines that answer most of what your family will be asked on day one.

Free · print it · tell two people



What a finished one looks like

Eleven lines — and they answer most of what your family will be asked on the first day. Here is a completed one, so you can see what finished looks like. **Ruth Hollis is not a real person**; the page overleaf is yours.

Full legal name, and the name you go by

Ruth Eleanor Hollis

Date and place of birth

March 14, 1948 — Sandusky, Ohio

Burial, cremation, green burial, or donation

Cremation

What should happen to the remains

Interred in the family plot at Marlow Cemetery, with my parents

Have arrangements already been made and paid for?

Yes — a prepaid cremation contract with Ashgrove Funeral Home

Anything I feel strongly about, or strongly against

No embalming. No open casket. Please do not spend money on a limousine.

The service or gathering I want, and where

A memorial service at St. Brigid's, a week or two after — no rush

Flowers, or donations instead — and to whom

Donations to the Marlow Public Library in place of flowers

The person I would like to make the arrangements

My daughter, Claire Hollis-Ward — she has a copy of this page

Second person, if the first cannot be reached

My brother, Peter Hollis

Where this page is kept, and who else knows

Fireproof box in the hall closet; Claire and Peter both know, and Claire has a copy

Notice what is not here: no account numbers, no Social Security number, no passwords. That is deliberate — it is what makes a page like this safe to hand to someone.

My final wishes

Print this page and fill it in by pen. Then — and this is the part people skip — **tell at least two people where it is.** A page nobody can find is a blank page.

Full legal name, and the name you go by

Date and place of birth

Burial, cremation, green burial, or donation

What should happen to the remains

Have arrangements already been made and paid for?

Anything I feel strongly about, or strongly against

The service or gathering I want, and where

Flowers, or donations instead — and to whom

The person I would like to make the arrangements

Second person, if the first cannot be reached

Where this page is kept, and who else knows

Locations and contacts only — never account numbers, Social Security numbers, or passwords. That is what makes this page safe to hand to someone.

Three things to do now that it's written

Filling the page in is most of the work. These three take about ten minutes between them, and they are the difference between a page that gets used and a page that gets found afterward.

1 Tell two people, not one.

Say what it is, where it is, and how to get to it. Two people, because the first may be traveling, unwell, or simply too close to it to function on the day. This is the single most common way a page like this fails — not because it was incomplete, but because it was in a drawer nobody opened until after the funeral.

2 Keep it somewhere reachable — not only in a safe-deposit box.

A box can be slow to open after a death unless somebody else is already a signatory, and the funeral is usually over by the time that clears. A fireproof box or a labeled home file that two people know about works better. Better still: hand one of them a photocopy.

3 Put a date on it, and look again in a year.

Pick something you will not forget — a birthday, New Year, the afternoon you do the taxes. Most years nothing will have changed, and knowing that is worth the five minutes. Go back sooner if you move, if you change your mind, or if someone named on the page dies.

WHEN ELEVEN LINES ISN'T ENOUGH

This page covers the questions asked on day one. The full **Funeral / Final-Arrangements Planning Binder** covers what comes next: twenty-six arrangement decisions with a note on what each one actually decides, an itemized cost estimate set against every fund you have — with the gap, and the money reachable in the first few days, calculated for you — plus where every document is, the facts a death certificate asks for, who to notify, and what to close. Eleven tabs for Excel and Google Sheets, and four guides.

A page, not a will. This records your wishes. It is not a will, a trust, or an advance directive, it does not appoint anyone, and it is not legal or financial advice. In most places the legal right to direct a funeral is set by law or by a signed authorization form, not by a wish list — so make your wishes findable here, and talk to an attorney about the documents that carry legal weight. © Ardent Workshop LLC — free to print and share as-is; please don't resell it.