

Make calls to notify authorities, friends, family and employer
Find the will and look for any prepaid funeral arrangements
If a pre-planning arrangement doesn't exist, start contacting funeral homes
Write an obituary and a eulogy
Make copies of the death certificate because it's likely you'll need them for multiple occasions throughout the process
Learn about your options and have an open conversation with close friends and family about what best suits your needs
Determine any ceremonies or post-service events (such as an ash scattering ceremony or a celebration-of-life)
Decide other details such as: flowers, music, speakers, photos, special traditions, etc.