

BOOK OF ANSWERS TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following legal documents should be available to download from your state. The State of Illinois, Public Health department has links to all information and forms about Living Wills; Powers of Attorney for Health Care and Property; Mental Health Treatment Preference Declarations; Do-not-resuscitate decisions; and Organ donations. Copies of the following documents are in our home safe and in our Books of Answers.

Part 1: **Power of Attorney for Health Care** (signed and witnessed by Notary) also articles about rights and needs of the Dying

Part 2: **Financial Power of Attorney** (signed and witnessed by Notary)

Part 3: **Last Will and Testament** (signed and witnessed).

Part 4: **Obituary** (with preferred photo). In addition, I have listed contact information for those I'd like notified. "My life as I know it..." is a yearly document Harry started to keep track of significant life events. I have begun to write my own stories that I don't think our kids know about my life. There is a list of **people to inform and their contact information**, one less task for our survivors to have to take on.

Part 5: Preferences for **Memorial Service** (*with assurance to survivors that they do what is best for them! Posthumous demands are so hard on survivors!*) I created a booklet for my memorial service in which I thank and name (to the best of my memory) all those souls who contributed to making me the person I became.

Part 6: **Burial information.** We have met with a funeral director who will transport our bodies to our chosen site which offers a green/natural, environmentally friendly burial.

Part 7: **A Potlach.** This is a Native American custom in which the deceased gives all their goods to the community. I like the efficiency and generosity of this custom. I like honoring my Muskogee Creek heritage. After specific bequests are fulfilled, and if I'm the last parent to go, I'm asking our survivors to host the Potlach by inviting their friends and friend of friends and our friends and neighbors to participate in this custom in which they come to our home and take any and all goods they would like. Hopefully, this will lighten the burden and result in less stuff for our survivors to dispose of! 2025 is the year we have gotten more serious about implementing the "Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning" by intentionally downsizing our stuff!

Part 8: **Blessing Letters** to our kids and grandkids, a work in progress! This is a fond and affirming farewell, expressing our appreciation and affirmation for each one's unique gifts. I've started with the family members I feel closest to.

Part 9: A list of passwords, financial accounts, billing info, etc.

Part 10: Miscellaneous articles about actions Survivors/Executors need to take.