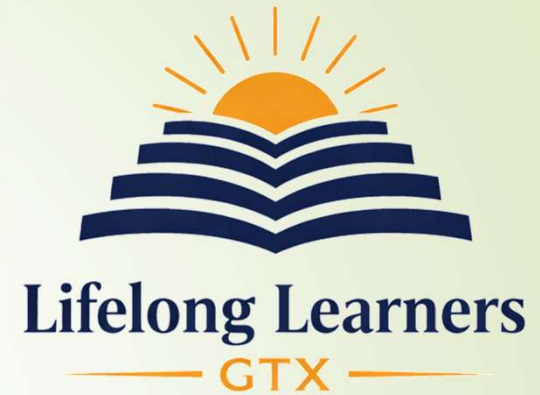


05 October 2026



Don't Leave a Mess

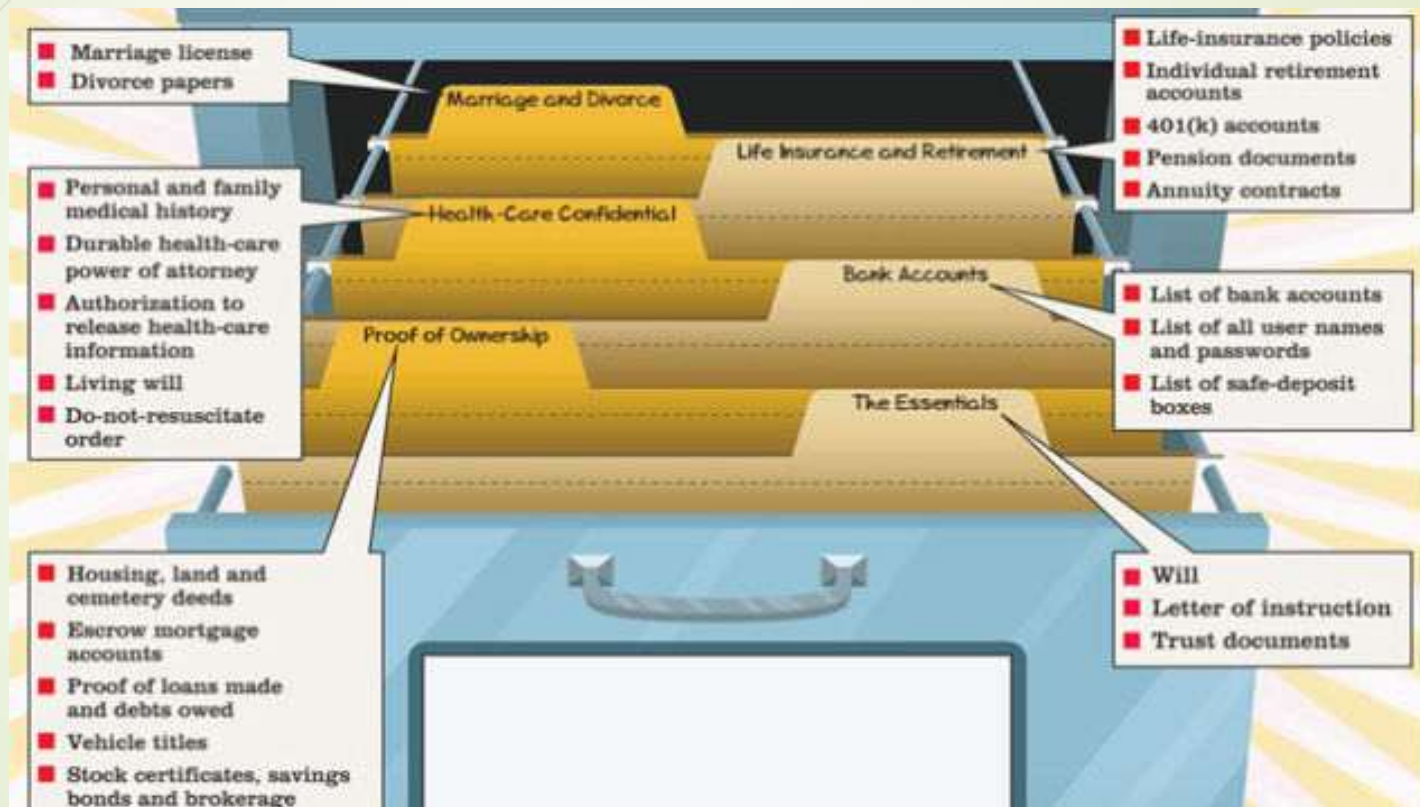
Controlling Your Digital Afterlife

About me

- ▀ Jan, not Jan
- ▀ Originally from Belgium; in the US since 1987
- ▀ MBA Rice U (Houston)
- ▀ Houston TX, Canton MI, Spring TX
- ▀ Georgetown resident since 2019
- ▀ jan @ vromant.net

There are no dumb questions; there are only dumb answers

Most Important Documents*



Context and Scope

- We all have our **basic** end-of-life checklists* figured out
 - Will and estate planning; probate; transfer-on-death deed
 - Medical directives (DNRs, life-sustaining measures)
 - Nursing and hospice care
- We have NOT thought about **less important (?)** stuff
 - We have NOT backed up or cleaned up our hard drives
 - We have NOT thought about our passwords
 - We have NOT thought about what will happen with our social media accounts
 - We have NOT thought about what happens with an incoming email informing us about an annual credit card charge for that Amazon Prime or Hulu subscription

* Booklet “My End of Life Decisions” toolkit will be sent at the end of this session.

Agenda

- Introduction
- Horror stories
- Areas to cover and checklists
- Prioritization concepts

This deck can be sent to you in pdf-format at the end of the meeting.

All Yours... !

Boomer parents: One day this will all be yours.
Grown children: Noooo!



Richard Eisenberg –
“Sorry, nobody wants
your parents’ stuff”

- Horror stories
- Areas to cover and checklists
- Prioritization concepts

Creepy but Important Stuff

Herman Cain died two weeks ago, but his social media accounts are still bashing Democrats

William Cummings USA TODAY
Published 11:45 a.m. ET Aug. 13, 2020 | Updated 2:05 p.m. ET Aug. 13, 2020

Herman Cain, the 2012 Republican presidential candidate who died after contracting COVID-19, is continuing to denounce Democratic politicians on social media two weeks after his death.

"How well prepared is Kamala Harris for the presidency? We take a look. We're not impressed and you won't be either," read a post added to his Facebook account on Wednesday.

"Is it just me or is tweeting from a dead person's account at the very least creepy," tweeted Fox affiliate WNYW's Steve Chenevey.

What will be your legacy?



August is What Will Be Your Legacy Month, the perfect time to preserve your legacy by deciding what you need to transfer and how. Have photos or slides, video tapes, or movie film? Even if you have an old projector or VCR, save these memories to make them last—transfer them to a USB drive or even your favorite cloud storage option, and keep your memories pristine for your loved ones to treasure.

emotions

Obituary

Dolores [REDACTED]

1929 — Aug. 7, 2008

Dolores [REDACTED], born in 1929 in New Mexico, left us on August 7, 2008. She will be met in the afterlife by her husband, Raymond, her son, Paul Jr., and daughter, Ruby. She is survived by her daughters Marietta, Mitzi, Stella, Beatrice, Virginia and Ramona, and son Billy; grandchildren, Donnelle, Joe, Mitzie, Maria, Mario, Marty, Tynette, Tania, Leta, Alexandria, Tommy, Billy, Mathew, Raymond, Kenny, Javier, Lisa, Ashlie and Michael; great-grandchildren, Brendan, Joseph, Karissa, Jacob, Delaney, Shawn, Cienna, Bailey, Christian, Andre Jr., Andrea, Keith,

Merissa, Emily, Jayci, Isabella, Samantha and Emily. I apologize if I missed anyone.

Dolores had no hobbies, made no contribution to society and rarely shared a kind word or deed in her life. I speak for the majority of her family when I say her presence will not be missed by many, very few tears will be shed and there will be no lamenting over her passing.

Her family will remember Dolores and amongst ourselves we will remember her in our own way, which were mostly sad and troubling times throughout the years. We may have some fond memories of her and perhaps we will think of those

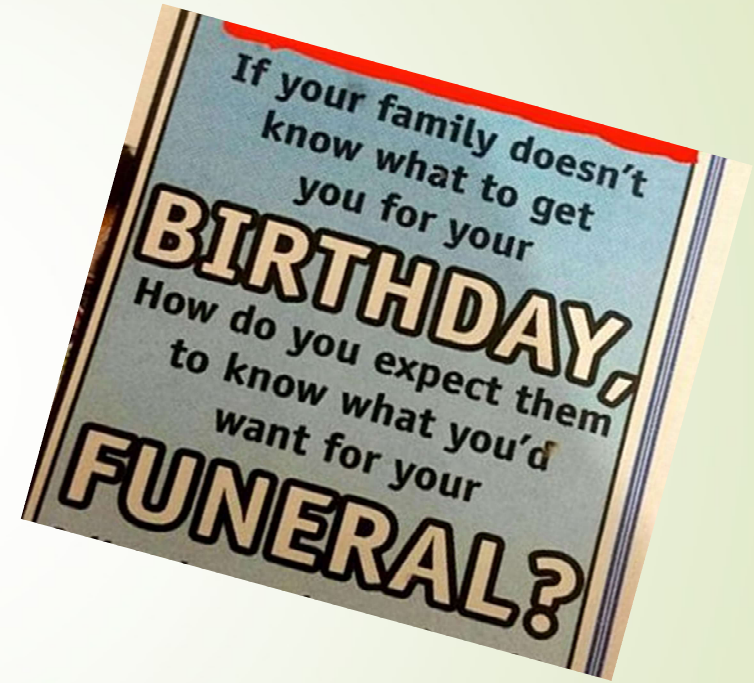
times too. But I truly believe at the end of the day ALL of us will really only miss what we never had, a good and kind mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. I hope she is finally at rest with herself.

Thrice, no more, sure for the spent a life apart. We can together in the to it that her grandchildren and great-grandchildren can say their goodbyes. So I say here for all of us, GOOD BYE, MOM.

Dolores had no hobbies, made no contribution to society and rarely shared a kind word or deed in her life. I speak for the majority of her family when I say her presence will not be missed by many, very few tears will be shed and there will be no lamenting over her passing.

Horror Stories

- Kamal Dave on LinkedIn
- MyHeritage emails
- Dee / phone / security system
- Your horror story... ?
- Natural tendency to avoid these conversations



Obvious Areas to Cover

- Utilities
- Financial stuff (bank accounts and safe, credit cards, etc.)
- Subscriptions and memberships (TV channels, Consumer Reports, AARP, Amazon Prime, etc.)
- Keys identification (storage area, safe, RV, etc.)

Most of the above areas have **financial** consequences

- Easy to prioritize

- Horror stories
- Areas to cover and checklists
- Prioritization concepts

Not-So-Obvious Areas

- Passwords
- Photos and addresses
- Content of hard drive(s) and cloud storage
 - “home-made videos”!
- Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.)
- Online subscriptions (newsletters, alma mater, etc.)
- Collections (digital pictures, books, typewriters, etc.)

The above may have **reputational / legacy / emotional** consequences

- Not so easy to prioritize
- “Divestment inertia”



Checklists

- Checklists are critical and should be easily accessible
- Build over time
- Useful everywhere (pilots, surgeons, to-do lists, etc.)
- Combine paper and spreadsheet
- Divide checklists in *confidential* and *non-confidential*

The Bug-Out Book

Example

Entity Bills	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
Georgetown Utilities	US Mail	Monthly	29 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Atmos Energy	Email	Monthly	19 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Suddenlink	Email	Monthly	17 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
US Mobile Cell Service	Email	Monthly	2 nd	Auto Debit MC-xxxx
TxTag	Email	Annual		Auto Debit MC-xxxx
Tablo TV	Email	Annual	August	Auto Debit MC-xxxx
Acorn TV	Email	Annual	May	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
BritBox TV	Email	Annual	July	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Lawn Service	US Mail	Weekly/Bi-Monthly	30 th	Check
Home Cleaning		Every 2 weeks		Check
Church		Monthly	1 st Week	Check
Church Food Pantry		Monthly	2 nd Week	Check
Car Payment	Email	Monthly	15 th	Bank Auto Pay
SW Subscriptions				
Microsoft 365	Email	Annual	September	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Quicken	Email	Annual	January	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx

Add a column for

- Website
- Username
- Contact (for password reset)
- Statements (paper or online)
- Phone number
- Account number
- Any comment

BUILD
OVER
TIME!

Entity Memberships	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
AARP	US Mail	Annual	July	Visa-xxxx
Williamson Museum	US Mail	Annual	January	Visa-xxxx
Sam's Club/CostCo	US Mail	Annual	December	MC -xxxx

Entity Insurance	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
Farmers Home Ins	US Mail	Annual	September	MC -xxxx
Farmers Vehicle Ins	US Mail	Bi-Annual	Apr/Oct	MC -xxxx
Farmers Umbrella Ins	US Mail	Annual	April	MC -xxxx

Entity Credit Cards	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
MC-xxxx	Email	Monthly	17 th	Bank Bill Pay
Visa-xxxx	Email	Monthly	8 th	Checking Auto Pay

Give Yourself a KITA

- Start tomorrow morning
- Prepare the checklists for all areas that come to mind
- Get a password manager
- Write down instructions **on paper**
- Write your not-boring obituary
- Decide what should happen with your social media account(s)
- Talk to your next of kin and schedule informational conversations



- Horror stories
- Areas to cover and checklists
- Prioritization concepts

“Get It Together”



Get It Together: Organize Your Records So Your Family Won't Have To

by [Melanie Cullen](#) and Shae Irving J.D. | September 1, 2024

★★★★☆ ~ 20

\$25¹⁰ 

Facebook In Memoriam

- Delete Facebook account
- Create an “In Memory Of” page



Amelia Camero In Memoriam (1950-2016)



Mariza Camero Westerman updated the description. ...

🛡️ Admin · May 30, 2016 · 🌐

This Facebook Page is Dedicated to our Mom, Amelia Camero. Please share your memories in celebration of her life.

This page is administered by Mariza Camero Westerman

Password Managers

- First investigate what is important to you
- You can't go wrong with one of the following*:
 - 1Password
 - Keeper
 - Bitwarden
 - Dashlane
 - NordPass

pcmag.com	cnet.com	wired.com
NordPass	Bitwarden	Bitwarden
RoboForm	1Password	1Password
Proton Pass	NordPass	Dashlane
1Password	Dashlane	NordPass
Dashlane	Keeper	Enpass (DIY)
Keeper	Enpass (DIY)	KeePassXC (DIY)
LastPass	KeePassXC (DIY)	Keeper
LogMeOnce	Apple Passwords	RoboForm
Bitwarden		Pass
Enpass (DIY)		

* Updated May 2025

Getting Rid of Things

*The less you have, the less
your children will have to
deal with your stuff.*

- Hard drive(s) = garage
- Give away to kin or friends
- Sell (garage sale, eBay, Craig's List)
- Donate (The Caring Place; Assistant League; Buy Nothing; WilCo CPS)
- Discard (~85%)

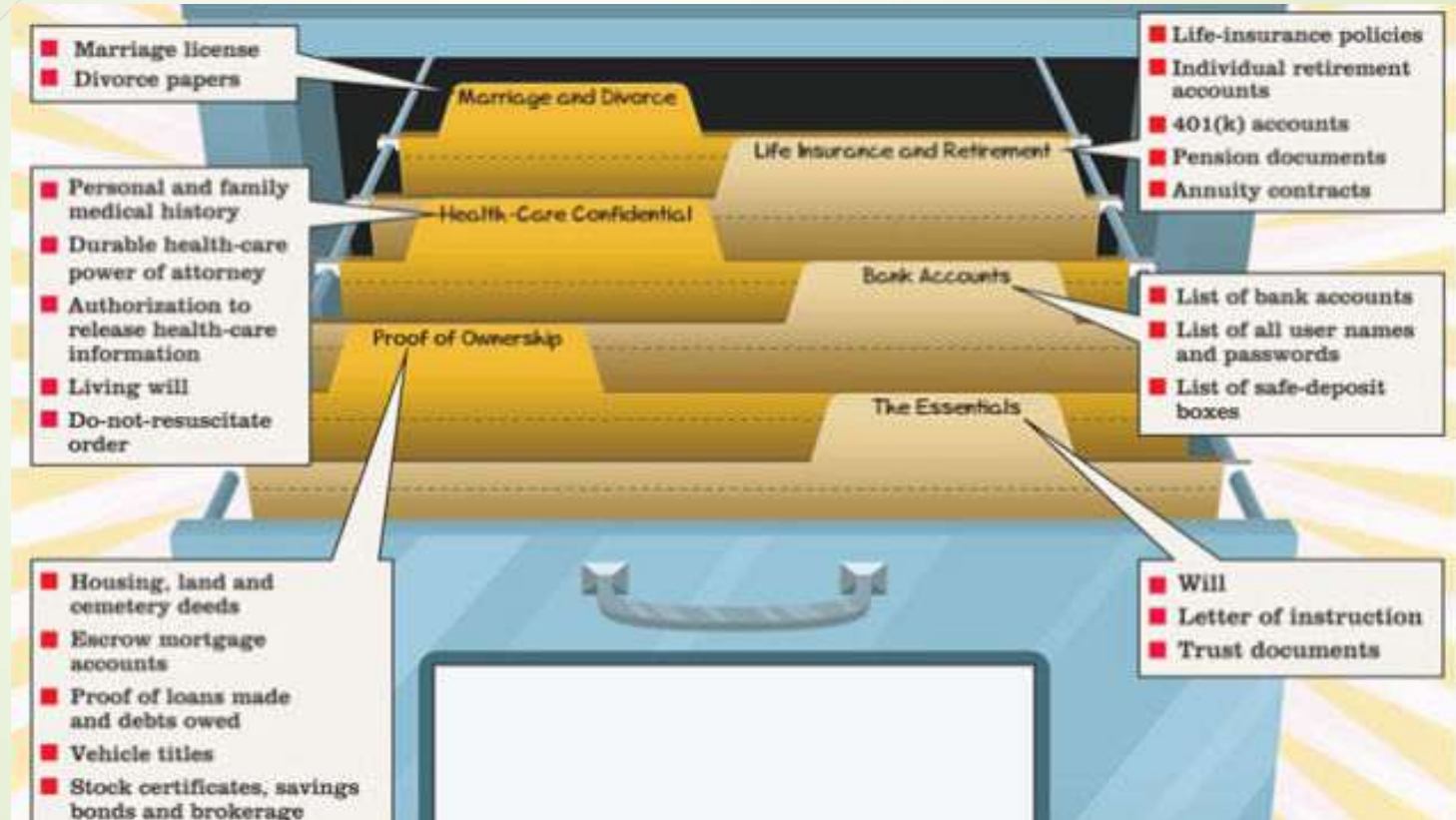
- Marie Kondo
 - "Does it bring you joy? If you answer yes, you keep the item. If you hesitate or say no, you donate it or throw it out. It's simple, it's brilliant, and it's something that's completely intuitive."

Wrap Up



next
steps

Next Steps: #1



Next Steps: #2

Entity Bills	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
Georgetown Utilities	US Mail	Monthly	29 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Atmos Energy	Email	Monthly	19 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Suddenlink	Email	Monthly	17 th	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
US Mobile Cell Service	Email	Monthly	2 nd	Auto Debit MC-xxxx
TxTag	Email	Annual		Auto Debit MC-xxxx
Tablo TV	Email	Annual	August	Auto Debit MC-xxxx
Acorn TV	Email	Annual	May	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
BritBox TV	Email	Annual	July	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Lawn Service	US Mail	Weekly/Bi-Monthly	30 th	Check
Home Cleaning		Every 2 weeks		Check
Church		Monthly	1 st Week	Check
Church Food Pantry		Monthly	2 nd Week	Check
Car Payment	Email	Monthly	15 th	Bank Auto Pay
SW Subscriptions				
Microsoft 365	Email	Annual	September	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx
Quicken	Email	Annual	January	Auto Debit Visa-xxxx

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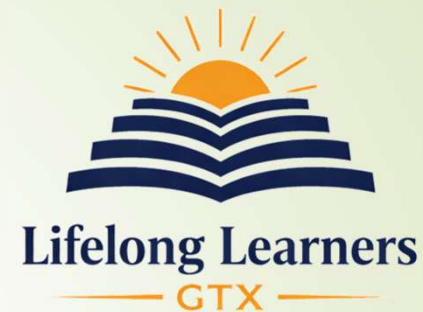
Entity Insurance	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
Farmers Home Ins	US Mail	Annual	September	MC -xxxx
Farmers Vehicle Ins	US Mail	Bi-Annual	Apr/Oct	MC -xxxx
Farmers Umbrella Ins	US Mail	Annual	April	MC -xxxx

Entity Credit Cards	Method of Notification	Period	Statement End Date	How Paid
MC-xxxx	Email	Monthly	17 th	Bank Bill Pay
Visa-xxxx	Email	Monthly	8 th	Checking Auto Pay

Next Steps: #3

Not-So-Obvious Areas

- Passwords
- Photos and addresses
- Social Media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.)
- Online subscriptions (newsletters, alma mater, etc.)
- Content of hard drive(s) and cloud storage
- Collections (digital pictures, books, typewriters, etc.)

**Appendix:**

- Delete Facebook account
- Facebook legacy contact
- Password emergency kit
- Delete LinkedIn account
- Google's inactive account
- Further reading

How to delete a Facebook account

How do I permanently delete my account?

Before deleting your account, you may want to log in and download a copy of your information (like your photos and posts) from Facebook. After your account has been deleted, you won't be able to retrieve anything you've added.

To permanently delete your account:

Classic Facebook

To permanently delete your account:

- 1 Click  at the top right of any Facebook page.
- 2 Click **Settings** then click **Your Facebook Information** in the left column.
- 3 Click **Deactivation and Deletion**.
- 4 Choose **Delete Account**, then click **Continue to Account Deletion**.
- 5 Enter your password, click **Continue** and then click **Delete Account**.

New Facebook

- 1 Click  in the top right of Facebook.
- 2 Select **Settings & Privacy > Settings**.
- 3 Click **Your Facebook Information** in the left column.
- 4 Click **Deactivation and Deletion**.
- 5 Choose **Permanently Delete Account**, then click **Continue to Account Deletion**.
- 6 Click **Delete Account**, enter your password and then click **Continue**.

Facebook Legacy Contact

You can add, change or remove your legacy contact in your account's General Settings at any time.

To add a legacy contact:

- Click down 'twisty' in the top right of Facebook.
- Select Settings & Privacy, then click Settings.
- Click Memorialization Settings.
- Type in a friend's name in 'Choose a friend' and click Add.
- To let your friend know they're now your legacy contact, click Send.

To change or remove a legacy contact, follow steps 1–2 above, then click Remove. From there, you can add a new legacy contact if you'd like.

Password Emergency Kit

- Password managers house the keys to all your digital accounts, and you can easily pass them on to a loved one.
- 1Password, for example, has you create an Emergency Kit when you sign up, which includes all the information someone would need to log into your account. Print it out or download a copy to a USB drive and place it somewhere safe, like a lock box, where your loved ones can access it in the event of your death.
- Keeper and Dashlane have similar features. If you use Keeper, open your vault on the site, then navigate to **Account > Manage Account Emergency Access**. There, you can add up to five email addresses as emergency contacts. The site also allows you to set up a seven-day waiting period, so if you don't use your account in that time, your contacts are notified.
- You can do the same in the Dashlane desktop app by navigating to **Contacts > Emergency > Add New** and entering the email address of an emergency contact. You will then be able to set a span of time before your contacts can request access to your vault and automatically get approved.

How to delete a LinkedIn account

Closing your account means permanently deleting your profile and removing access to all your LinkedIn information from our site. If you have a Premium account, you can [cancel the Premium access](#), but still keep your free Basic account to retain your profile, connections, and other information.

To close your LinkedIn account from the [Settings & Privacy](#) page:

1. Click the  **Me** icon at top of your LinkedIn homepage.
2. Select **Settings & Privacy** from the dropdown.
3. Under the **Account management** section of the **Account** tab, click **Change** next to **Closing your LinkedIn account**
4. Check the reason for closing your account and click **Next**.
5. Enter your account password and click **Close account**.

Google's Inactive Account Manager

- Google offers an Inactive Account Manager that automatically turns over control of your account to a designated person after a set period of inactivity.
- To set it up, head to <https://myaccount.google.com/inactive> and click Start. Next, decide how long you want to wait before Google declares your account inactive (by default, this is set to three months.) Below that, add or verify your own phone number and another contact or recovery email. Google will attempt to contact you multiple times via this number or email before it turns your account over to someone else. When you're done, click Next.
- On the third step, click Add Person and enter the email address of the person you'd like to give control of your account to and click Next. Then, click the checkbox next to each Google service from which you want them to be able to download data. You can allow access to everything or pick and choose specific services, like YouTube. Once you're done, click Next. You'll then be able to add your contact's phone number, to help confirm their identity. Click Save.
- Below this section, click Set Autoreply. This will let you set up an automatic message that will go out to anyone who emails you after your account is marked inactive. Fill out the Subject and Message field with the message you want people emailing you to receive. You can also click "Only send a response to people in my Contacts." When you're done, click Save, then click Next.
- The last step will let you delete your Google account three months after it's marked inactive. Enable this toggle if you want, then click Review Plan, check your choices, and click Confirm Plan.

Further Reading: PCMag article

- PCMag: Death is inevitable. Don't make it harder on those you leave behind. Here's how to let loved ones manage passwords, sensitive data, and social media profiles after you die.
 - Password emergency kit
 - Add a Facebook legacy contact
 - Set up Google's inactive account manager
 - Two-factor authentication
 - Backups
- <https://www.pcmag.com/how-to/how-to-prepare-your-digital-life-for-your-death>

Executor's Guide

