

How to Close Social Media Accounts of Deceased Loved Ones

www.ConsumerResources.org
A national hub of consumer protection information and resources from state and territory attorneys general for consumers.

AUTO CHARITIES HEALTHCARE HOME

Social media is part of many people’s daily lives. However, when a loved one passes away, their social media accounts are often overlooked. When winding up the affairs of a deceased loved one, social media accounts should be considered. There are often forms to fill out, documents to file, and decisions to be made on how the accounts in question should be handled, such as whether to deactivate or memorialize the account. Memorializing the account, meaning the account remains accessible solely as a place where friends and family can gather and share memories of the deceased, is available with some social media and may serve as a comfort in a time of loss. However it is decided to handle social media accounts, we hope this guide will be helpful during a difficult time.

Facebook

Submit a [request](#) to have the deceased user’s account deleted or [memorialized](#).



LinkedIn

To have the account removed, [submit a request](#). More information can be found [here](#).



Reddit

After creating your own Reddit account, [message](#) the moderators of the site to send a request for a username to be deleted. Attach an online obituary or other evidence that the user has died.



Tumblr

Send an email to support@tumblr.com requesting to remove the account of the deceased person with their Tumblr username, proof of their death, and proof of your relationship to the deceased.



YouTube

Visit this [Google support page](#) to submit a request. From here you can choose to either close the account, submit a request for funds, or obtain data from the account.



Instagram

Submit a request to have the deceased user’s profile removed or [memorialized](#). To have the account removed, [complete this form](#). To have the account memorialized, [complete this form](#).



Pinterest

Email care@pinterest.com with the deceased user’s details, including their account username, the obituary of the deceased, and proof of your relationship to the deceased.



Snapchat

To have the account removed, [complete this form](#).



Twitter

[Submit a request](#) to have the deceased user’s account deactivated. More information can be found [here](#).



Other

As there are many popular social media sites, we were unable to include all of them here. If your loved one has social media through a company not listed here, please go to that company’s website for information.

Consumer protection is one of the most important ways attorneys general serve citizens. Find your state and territory AG and file a complaint through www.ConsumerResources.org.

Important Documents You May Need to Close Social Media Accounts



Birth Certificate



A birth certificate is a document issued by a government that records the birth of a child. Some companies may require a birth certificate to prove your relationship to the deceased. Each state has protocols in place for requesting copies of birth certificates.

Executor Order



A document issued by a local court that states who the legal executor is for a particular estate and that they have the legal authority to act as such.

Memorial Card



Memorial cards are keepsakes distributed at funerals, memorial services or celebrations of life ceremonies that provide tributes to loved ones who died.

Power of Attorney



This is a legal document that gives authority to appoint a person or organization to manage a person's property, financial, or medical affairs if the person becomes unable to do so.



Death Certificate

Most websites will require proof of death. The easiest way to do this is providing the deceased individual's death certificate. If the death certificate is unavailable, proof of authority to act on behalf of the deceased will be requested.



Last Will and Testament

This is a legal document that expresses a person's wishes as to how their property is to be distributed after death and as to which person is to manage the property until its final distribution.



Obituary

This is a notice of a death, especially in a newspaper, typically including a brief biography of the deceased person.

ConsumerResources.org is a hub of consumer protection information and resources from state and territory attorneys general, through the National Association of Attorneys General. The website features links to consumer protection resources for each attorney general office and federal enforcement agencies. Consumer complaints can also be filed with most attorneys general through the links on the website. In addition, the website offers educational materials on a variety of consumer topics to help consumers to stay informed on important issues and a [monthly newsletter](#). To subscribe to our newsletter, [click here](#).

