



100 Questions to Ask Family Members

Questions provided by *Share Your Story Montana*

Questions For Everyone

1. What was the happiest moment of your life?
2. What was the saddest moment of your life?
3. Who was/is the most important person in your life? Can you tell me about him/her?
4. Who has been the biggest influence on your life?
5. What lessons did they teach you?
6. Who has been the kindest to you in your life?
7. What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?
8. What is your earliest memory?
9. Are there any words of wisdom you'd like to pass along to me?
10. What are you proudest of in your life?
11. When in life have you felt most alone?
12. How has your life been different than what you imagined?
13. How would you like to be remembered?
14. Do you have any regrets?

Grandparents

1. Where did you grow up?
2. What was your childhood like?
3. Do you remember any of the stories your relatives used to tell you?
4. How did you and grandma/grandpa meet?
5. What was mom/dad like growing up?
6. Do you remember any songs that you used to sing to her/him? Can you sing them now?
7. Was she/he well-behaved?
8. What is the worst thing she/he ever did?
9. What were your parents like?
10. What were your grandparents like?
11. How would you like to be remembered?

Raising Children

1. When did you first find out that you'd be a parent? How did you feel?
2. Can you describe the moment when you saw your child for the first time?
3. How has being a parent changed you?
4. What are your dreams for your children?
5. Do you remember when your last child left home for good?
6. Do you have any favorite stories about your kids?

Parents

1. Do you remember what was going through your head when you first saw me?
2. How did you choose my name?
3. What was I like as a baby? As a young child?
4. Do you remember any of the songs you used to sing to me? Can you sing them now?
5. What were my siblings like?
6. What were the hardest moments you had when I was growing up?
7. If you could do everything again, would you raise me differently?
8. What advice would you give me about raising my own kids?
9. What are your dreams for me?

Growing Up

1. When and where were you born?
2. Where did you grow up?
3. What was it like?
4. Who were your parents?
5. What were your parents like?
6. How was your relationship with your parents?
7. Did you get into trouble? What was the worst thing you did?
8. How would you describe yourself as a child? Were you happy?
9. What is your best memory of childhood? Worst?
10. Did you have a nickname? How'd you get it?
11. Who were your best friends? What were they like?
12. How would you describe a perfect day when you were young?
13. What did you think your life would be like when you were older?
14. Do you have any favorite stories from your childhood?

School

1. Did you enjoy school?
2. What kind of student were you?
3. How would your classmates remember you?
4. Are you still friends with anyone from that time in your life?
5. What are your best memories of school/college/graduate school? Worst memories?
6. Was there a teacher who had a particularly strong influence on your life? Why?

Love & Relationships

1. Do you have a love of your life?
2. When did you first fall in love?
3. Can you tell me about your first kiss?
4. What was your first serious relationship?
5. Do you believe in love at first sight?
6. What lessons have you learned from your relationships?

Marriage & Partnerships

1. How did you meet your husband/wife?
2. How did you know he/she was "the one"?
3. How did you propose/get proposed to?
4. What were the best times? The most difficult times?
5. What advice do you have for young couples?
6. Do you have any favorite stories from your marriage?

Working

1. How did you get into your line of work?
2. What did you think you were going to do when you grew up?
3. What did you want to be when you grew up?
4. What lessons has your work life taught you?
5. If you could do anything now, what would you do? Why?
6. Do you have any favorite stories from your work life?

Religion

1. Can you tell me about your most deeply held beliefs/spiritual beliefs?
2. Have you experienced/witnessed any miracles?
3. What was the most profound spiritual moment of your life?
4. Do you believe in God?
5. Do you believe in the after-life? What do you think it will be like?
6. When you meet God, what do you want to say to Him?

Family Heritage

1. What traditions have been passed down in your family?
2. Who were your favorite relatives?
3. Do you remember any of the stories they used to tell you?
4. What are the classic family stories? Jokes? Songs?

War

1. Were you in the military?
2. Did you go to war? What was it like?
3. How did war change you?
4. During your service, can you recall times when you were afraid?
5. What are your strongest memories from your time in the military?
6. What lessons did you learn from this time in your life?

Friends

1. What is your first memory of me?
2. What makes us such good friends?
3. Where will we be in 10 years? 20 years?
4. Do you think we'll ever lose touch with each other?
5. Is there anything that you've always wanted to tell me but haven't?
6. How do you think we are the same/different?