

Life Lists

These lists help the memoir writer organize his or her life so that an accurate time line can then be created. The lists below and on the following pages are examples of how such lists can be constructed. Items should be added to the list chronologically. Additional lists can be added and rows can be added to a specific list if necessary.

Once these lists are complete, a timeline can then be created.

With the lists and timeline created, a series of structure interviews (recorded) can begin.

School	Dates	Notes
Public School I7 (Long Island, NY) – Elementary & Jr.	1957	A typical school in suburban Long Island, NY. Mrs Ornish, my 7 th grade Math teacher was a true influence on my life. Also, Jack Latelli and Stanley Fitzgerald become my lifelong friends.
St. Gregory HS (Brooklyn NY)	1965	It was a Catholic School and nuns taught many of the classes. Only math was the class not taught by nuns. Maybe that’s why I came to love math so much. I was real nerd in high school – math club, chess club, no girlfriends (all-boys school). Looking back, I now know that it was a pretty good experience, except for the not having a girlfriend part.
Plattsburg College (Plattsburg, NY)	1969	Away from home for the first time. This was the 1960s and things were really opening up on campus – the parties, the politics, the girls. My grades weren’t that good because I was having too much fun. I met Beth, my first wife when I was there.
Drexel University	1972	This was tough two years academically. Mechanical engineering did not come easy to me. I thought being good in math would really help. It didn’t. It didn’t help that my father died when I was there and that my new marriage was obviously not working out.

Family Member	Dates	Notes
Carmella (mother)	1928 - Present	She was so Italian in every way! She cooked all the time. She fussed over my sister and me with constant demands to take a bath and wear clean clothes. Also, she never lost her thick, Italian accent. Her family was from Naples and her own father came to this country in 1900. She was a very short, very round woman but her photographs before I was born show her to be a very attractive young woman. She was raised during the Depression and met my father through her father. She's still alive and still fusses over me and my sister.
Jackquino (father)	1926 - 1973	He and I always had a very difficult relationship. His family was so poor and he worked so hard and so much to get ahead. He expected even more from me. When I was in high school and college, I was sort of a hippy and I really think he hated me for that. And when he died when I was in graduate school, I regret so much not telling him that I really loved him. I think all the hard work (he was a plumber) simply wore out his heart and he died at 47. My mother still misses him.
Leigh (sister)	1953 - Present	My sister had a tough time. My mother wanted her to be traditional but Leigh fought that. She was becoming a "liberated" woman for whatever reason. And when she married a Jewish guy, mom and dad pretty much stopped talking to her, even after their grandson was born. But she and I still talk all the time and she's gotten a lot calmer over the years. When she was in her 20s, she was so annoying with her feminist politics. She now lives in the Boston area with her husband and her two children. They sometimes visit on the holidays and I think her husband is a pretty good guy.

Romantic Relationship	Dates	Notes
Beth	1969	My first. My first love, lust, serious relationship. We actually married while I was still in college. It only took a couple of years to realize that we had both made a huge mistake. Towards the end it was awful. We just stopped talking to each other. Then my father died. We divorced and basically went our separate ways.
Sarena	1973	After Beth, I soon met Sarena. She was from Spain and the sister of a graduate school friend. She was a couple of years older than me and a stunningly beautiful girl. It was an amazing relationship at first. I'm pretty sure that I was on the rebound but we didn't call it that back then. I don't know if I truly loved her, but we had so much passion together and I enjoyed her company when the passion gradually faded. She so much wanted to get married yet I was reluctant after my disastrous first marriage to Beth. She eventually went back to Spain where she got married and had three kids.
Jo Ann	1984	I met Jo Ann when I was working for an engineering company outside of Philadelphia. I met her on my 30 th birthday when I was out with some friends bar hopping. I saw this beautiful blonde at a nightclub and I made a really clumsy, drunken pass at her. Looking back, I'm surprised she didn't slap me! But I got her number and when I called her I managed to arrange a date to apologize. I don't think it was love at first sight, because dated for at least a couple of years because I think we were both reluctant to get married. Jo Ann also had a bad first marriage. But when she got pregnant, it was time for marriage. I have absolutely no regrets. She is the love of my life and always will be.

Friend	Dates	Notes
Jack Latelli (Best friend)	1960 – Present	In elementary school, me and Jack became close friends. He was a typical Italian kid from the neighborhood and we were pretty much inseparable for a year in elementary school, I think it was 4 th grade. We did mostly kid stuff, I don't remember the games we played or anything. We watched a lot of TV when the weather was cold and we were playing baseball in Spring and Summer. Then Stanley showed up the next year and it was the three of us. Even though we all moved apart over the years, we still talked and tried to take vacations together. Jack did get married but never had any kids.
Stanley Fitzgerald	1961 - 2007	Stanley was the new kid. There is always a new kid. He was really tall for his age and had really red hair. His family was Irish but that wasn't anything important to us. So the three of us ended up running around together for years, all the way through high school. Jack ended up being a heartthrob while Stanley and me just ended up being nerdy young guys. Stanley ended up in the same grad school as me. My first wife hated him because he was very single and always trying to take me out to find girls. It shouldn't have mattered to my ex wife because Stanley was never good with girls. Maybe he loosened up a bit and called himself "Stan" instead of "Stanley" he might have done better. But it doesn't really matter now because he died a couple of years ago of an illness he never spoke about. I have the idea that he was gay and might have died of AIDS. I miss him. He was a good friend.

Job	Dates	Notes
Teacher – Philadelphia Public Schools	1973	I really loved teaching high school. Even though some kids had a real hard time with math I tried to get them to understand. The kids who did get the math were wonderful. I taught at three different high schools, one of them in a really rough neighborhood. The money wasn't all that great but it was incredibly rewarding.
Computer Programmer – Digital Equipment Corporation	1982	After almost 10 years of teaching I was getting burned out. I had been learning about computer programming and on a lark, I applied for a job at DEC. It was all mainframe computers back then with lots of difficult programming. It was enjoyable in a technical kind of way. The money was also much better than teaching.
Teacher – Broward County Public Schools, Coral Springs High School	1992	Jo Ann was the one who got me back into teaching. We relocated to Florida for her job and I needed something to do. I was missing teaching and applied for a job with Broward County. This got me a position as a math teacher in Coral Springs, close to the house. It was a very good job and I enjoyed it thoroughly for the first five or six years.
Computer Programmer	1999	With my two daughters growing up and knowing that college expenses would be a major financial responsibility, I left teaching and went back to computer programming. There was nothing