

A LEGACY HANDOFF

Legacy Handoff

Margaret Rose Avery
“Maggie”



“Leave the people you love a map, not a maze.”

PREPARED	COMPLETE	VERSION
June 2026	92%	1.0

This package gathers everything one family may need — important documents, final wishes, people to contact, financial and property summaries, memories, photographs, and personal messages — in one organized record to keep, print, and pass down.

Start Here

A calm first step for the family

Take a breath. Most things can wait. Here is what matters in the first hours — and what does not.

In the first 24–48 hours

- Take a breath — you do not have to do everything today.
- Call James Avery (son, executor) — he has the full picture.
- Contact the funeral home: Schoedinger, Columbus (already pre-arranged).
- Make sure someone feeds and walks Biscuit (see Section 06).

What does NOT need to happen right away

- Bank accounts and bills — these can wait several days.
- Cancelling subscriptions and services.
- Sorting belongings — there is no rush.

The essentials

Who is in charge

James Avery is the executor; Thomas Avery (husband) is healthcare proxy.

Contact first

James Avery — (614) 555-0142

Original documents

Fire safe in the bedroom closet (will, deeds, titles). Cedar box, top drawer (passwords, account list, letters).

Immediate concerns

- Biscuit the dog needs daily care — Sarah has agreed.
- Thomas takes heart medication — do not let routines slip.

My Life at a Glance

Who I am, and how I hope to be remembered

The essentials

Full legal name	Margaret Rose Avery
Preferred name	Maggie
Born	May 19, 1953 · Marietta, Ohio
Hometown	Columbus, Ohio
Spouse / partner	Thomas Avery (married 1981)
Children	James Avery, Sarah Avery-Cole, Michael Avery
Grandchildren	Ella, Noah, Grace, Liam, Ruby, Owen, Maeve, Theo
Career	Pediatric nurse, Nationwide Children's Hospital (1986–2018)
Faith / culture	Methodist — St. Andrew's, Columbus

A short biography

Margaret spent thirty-two years as a pediatric nurse at Nationwide Children's Hospital, where she was known for staying past her shift and remembering every child's name. She married Thomas in 1981, raised three children, and somehow always had a casserole ready for a neighbor in need. She loved her garden, gospel records, and being right — which, to be fair, she usually was.

How I hope you remember me

As someone who showed up. Who made the room warmer. Who taught you to be kind first and brave always.

A life in moments

- 1953** | **Born in Marietta, Ohio**
 The second of four children.
- 1975** | **Became a registered nurse**
 Graduated from Ohio State.
- 1981** | **Married Thomas Avery**
 A small church wedding; rained all day, and she loved it.
- 1984** | **First child, James**
 Followed by Sarah (1986) and Michael (1990).

My Life at a Glance

Who I am, and how I hope to be remembered

2018

Retired after 32 years of nursing

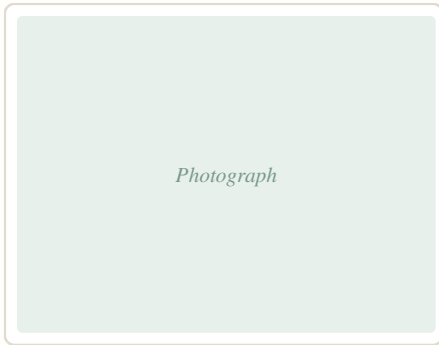
The unit threw a party she pretended not to want.

2024

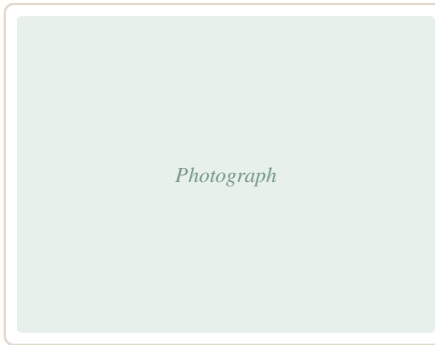
Eight grandchildren and counting

The kitchen is still the center of the world.

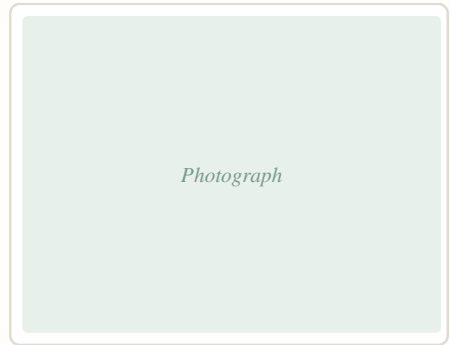
FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS



Wedding day · 1981



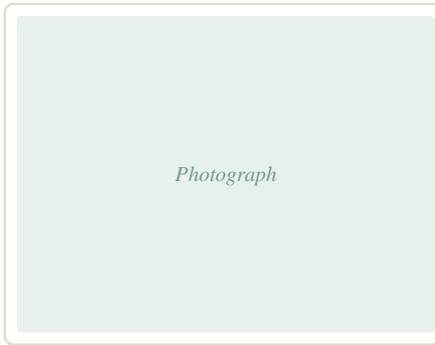
The kids · 1991



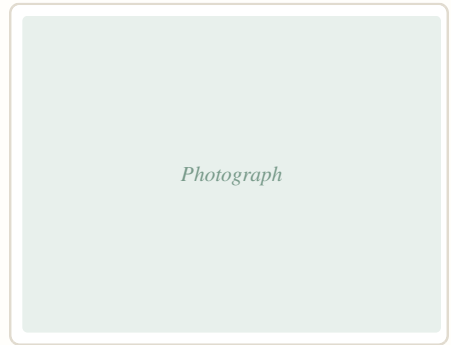
Nursing graduation · 1975



Christmas · 2019



The cabin · 2010



Retirement party · 2018

People & Responsibilities

Who to call, and who is in charge of what

Order of responsibility

ROLE	PERSON	NOTE
Executor	James Avery	—
Alternate executor	Sarah Avery-Cole	—
Healthcare proxy	Thomas Avery	—
Financial POA	James Avery	—
Attorney	Daniel Reese, Esq.	—
Funeral contact	Schoedinger Funeral Home	—
Pet caretaker	Sarah Avery-Cole	—
Digital executor	Michael Avery	—

Trusted contacts

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	ROLE	PHONE	EMAIL
Thomas Avery	Husband	Healthcare proxy	(614) 555-0188	thomas.a@example.com
James Avery	Son	Executor	(614) 555-0142	james.a@example.com
Sarah Avery-Cole	Daughter	Pet & home care	(614) 555-0163	sarah.c@example.com
Daniel Reese	Attorney	Estate attorney	(614) 555-0110	dreese@example.com
Pastor Lewis	Clergy	Service officiant	(614) 555-0177	—

Contacts marked sensitive should not receive private financial or access details.

Legal & Medical

Documents, where they live, and care wishes

Document dashboard

DOCUMENT	STATUS	LOCATION	PROFESSIONAL
Last Will & Testament	Signed	Fire safe; original w/ Hartman & Reese	Daniel Reese, Esq.
Revocable Living Trust	Signed	Fire safe	Daniel Reese, Esq.
Durable Financial POA	Signed	Fire safe	—
Healthcare POA	Signed	On file w/ Dr. Lewis	—
Advance Directive / Living Will	Signed	Fire safe & hospital	—
Birth Certificate	On file	Cedar box	—

Healthcare & end-of-life

Preferences	Comfort first. Keep me at home if possible, with music and the windows open.
End-of-life wishes	No life-prolonging treatment if there is no reasonable hope of recovery.
Resuscitation	DNR on file with Dr. Lewis and Riverside Methodist.
Organ / tissue donation	Yes — donate anything that can help another family.
Doctors	Dr. Lewis (primary); Dr. Okafor (cardiology, for Thomas)
Conditions	Type 2 diabetes (well managed)
Medications	Metformin; full list in the cedar box
Allergies	Penicillin
Preferred hospital	Riverside Methodist, Columbus
Health insurance	Medicare + AARP supplement (details in vault)
Hospice / comfort care	If needed: Heartland Hospice — already discussed with the family.

Please note

Documents are provided by the customer. FinalKeepSake does not create, validate, verify the legal validity of, or replace any legal or medical document. Consult a qualified professional.

Money, Insurance & Debts

A summary — sensitive numbers are masked

Accounts

INSTITUTION	TYPE	OWNER	ACCOUNT	WHERE DETAILS LIVE
Huntington National Bank	Checking	Joint (Margaret & Thomas)	ending 2345	Cedar box notebook
Huntington National Bank	Savings	Joint	ending 7781	Cedar box notebook
Fidelity	IRA / 401(k) rollover	Margaret	ending 0094	Online + cedar box

Insurance & annuities

TYPE	COMPANY	POLICY	BENEFICIARY	WHERE DETAILS LIVE
Life	Northwestern Mutual	ending 8192	Thomas (primary)	Fire safe
Auto	State Farm	ending 4410	—	Glovebox + vault

Debts & obligations

TYPE	CREDITOR	ACCOUNT	NOTES
Mortgage	None — home paid in full (2019)	—	Deed in the fire safe.
Credit card	Chase	ending 6602	Auto-pay from Huntington checking.

Money, Insurance & Debts

A summary — sensitive numbers are masked

Recurring payments & subscriptions

ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Electric & gas (AEP)	~\$140/mo	Auto-pay
Phone (Verizon)	~\$70/mo	Joint plan with Thomas
Streaming (Netflix, Spotify)	—	Cancel when ready

Masked by default

Full account, card, and Social Security numbers are never printed. Only the last digits and the location of full details are shown.

Property & Personal Items

Where things are, and where they should go

Property & real estate

TYPE	ADDRESS	OWNER	INTENDED FOR
Primary residence	88 Sycamore Street, Columbus, OH	Joint	Children, equally
Cabin	Hocking Hills, OH	Joint	Held in trust for the grandchildren

Vehicles

VEHICLE	LOCATION	INTENDED FOR	NOTES
2019 Honda CR-V	Garage	Sarah	Title in fire safe.

Personal items & heirlooms

ITEM	WHERE IT IS	INTENDED FOR	THE STORY
The recipe box	Kitchen, second shelf	Sarah	Three generations of Sunday dinners. The lasagna card is the important one.
Grandmother's pearls	Cedar box	Granddaughters, by age	Worn at every family wedding since 1948.
Garden tools	Shed	Michael	Keep the roses alive and we're square.
The quilt	Cedar chest	Not yet assigned	Made the winter James was born.

Pets & their care

PET	CARETAKER	INSTRUCTIONS
Biscuit (Golden retriever)	Sarah	Two walks a day, dinner at 5, terrified of thunderstorms — he hides in the closet.

Digital Life & Access

How to reach the digital world — safely

Master access

Password manager

1Password

Where master access lives

Master password is in the sealed envelope in the cedar box, top drawer. Michael (digital executor) knows where it is.

Accounts & what to do with them

SERVICE	WHAT TO DO	NOTES
Email (Gmail)	Memorialize, then archive	Forward important mail to James for 6 months.
Facebook	Memorialize	Michael is the legacy contact.
Photos (iCloud)	Download & share	~30 years of family photos — please save them all.
Online banking	Close after estate settles	James has access via POA.

Passwords are not printed

For safety, actual passwords are never included here. This page points your family to where the password manager and master instructions are kept.

Final Wishes & Memorial

In their own words

The wishes below are meant to guide, not bind — to spare the family from guessing.

Final wishes

Service	A simple service at St. Andrew's, then a reception at the house — warm, not formal.
Burial / cremation	Cremation. Half my ashes at the cabin, half with Thomas at Greenlawn in time.
Funeral home	Schoedinger, Columbus (pre-arranged & pre-paid).
Clergy	Pastor Lewis
Music	"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"; gospel at the reception.
Readings	Psalm 23, and the Frost poem — have James read it.
Flowers	In lieu of flowers, donations to the pediatric unit at Nationwide Children's.
One thing I do NOT want	A long, somber service. Keep it under an hour and let people tell stories.

Memorial & service

Obituary photo	The garden photo from 2022 (in the vault).
People to notify	The Tuesday quilting group, the old nursing crew, the neighbors on Sycamore.
Reception	At the house. Someone make the macaroni correctly.
Memorial page	Yes — keep it private to family and close friends.

Memories & Traditions

The stories worth keeping

Sunday dinners

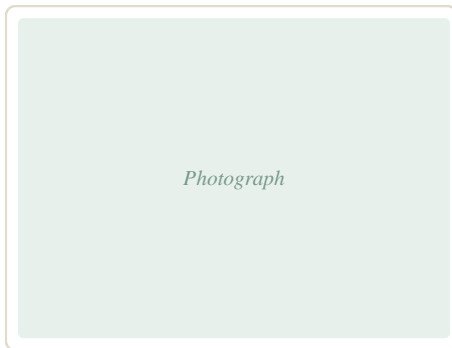
Every Sunday, no exceptions, the whole family at the long table. If you showed up, you got fed — and you got an opinion whether you asked for one or not.

1984–present · Everyone

The lake cabin

Thomas built the dock the summer of '92. We've watched every grandchild learn to swim off the end of it.

Hocking Hills



The dock · 1992 · Hocking Hills

Traditions, recipes & sayings

CHRISTMAS EVE SOUP

Potato soup and cornbread before church — the recipe is in the box, in my handwriting.

MAGGIE'S SAYING

“Be kind first and brave always.” She said it so often the grandkids finish it for her.

Private Notes

To be read with care

Confidential

These notes were marked for inclusion by the author. Please honor the audience noted on each one.

For James, when you're ready

Executor only · release after passing

There's a second savings account I never told your father about — it's for the grandchildren's college. The details are with Daniel Reese. Use it well, and don't make a fuss.

A note about the quilt

Family access

I never decided who should have it because I couldn't choose. Whoever needs it most that winter — you'll know.

Private

Spouse / partner only

(This entry is set to spouse-only and is shown here only because the author included it.)

Messages to Loved Ones

Words to keep

To Thomas

My husband · 2025

Forty-five years and it still wasn't enough. Thank you for every ordinary Tuesday — they were the best part. Lean on the kids. Keep the garden alive for me. I'll be at the cabin. All my love, always. — Maggie

To My children

James, Sarah & Michael · 2025

If you're reading this, I've gone on ahead, and I need you to know I left nothing unsaid. Be good to your father. Be good to each other. Take the casserole to whoever's hurting. And for heaven's sake, somebody keep the recipe box going. I am so proud of who you became. — Mom

To The grandchildren

All eight of you · 2025 · Private · release on each 18th birthday

There are eight separate letters for you in the cedar box, one apiece, to be opened on your eighteenth birthday. Until then: be kind first, and brave always. You know the rest. — Grandma

Obituary & Closing

A draft, and how the family opens everything

Obituary

DRAFT — review & approve before use

Margaret Rose Avery, of Columbus, Ohio, devoted her life to caring for others — first as a pediatric nurse for thirty-two years, and always as a mother, grandmother, and friend. Born May 19, 1953, Maggie filled every room she entered. She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Thomas; her children James, Sarah, and Michael; and eight grandchildren who knew her kitchen as the center of the world. A service will be held at St. Andrew’s. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the pediatric unit at Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Prepared with AI assistance. Review and approve before use.

For the immediate family

- Obtain certified copies of the death certificate (10–12).
- Contact the executor and the people listed in Section 03.
- Locate the original documents noted in Sections 04–06.
- Notify banks, insurers, and Social Security when ready.
- Open the full record online using the family access code (provided separately).

Accessing the full record

Online	finalkeepsake.com/access
How to open	Enter the family access code (sent separately) to download the complete record and original documents.
Generated	June 2026
Version	1.0
Last updated	June 2026

A closing word

Thank you for taking care of each other. That was always the whole point. — Maggie

Final reminder

This document holds sensitive family information. Keep it private, and share it only with the people it was meant for.