A legacy drawer is a drawer where you keep all your important end-of-life documents. These documents will tell your family what to do if something happens to you. You should include:

- A **cover letter** that describes what’s in the drawer and how to use each document
- **Important documents** like deeds and titles to things you own, marriage and birth certificates, and Social Security cards
- Your **will and estate plans**, plus names of your executor and powers of attorney
- A list of your **insurance policies** (health, life, auto, disability, etc.), policy numbers, names of policy holders and beneficiaries, and your agent’s contact info
- **Burial and service instructions** for the type and location of your burial, songs or speeches for the service, and any other specifics you want
- The names, numbers, passwords and balances of all your **financial accounts**, like your checking account or 401(k)
- **Legacy letters** telling your family how much you love them, what you hope for their futures and anything else you want them to know
- A copy of your **monthly budget**—including expenses, automated payments and bill payment accounts
- **Personal and business tax returns** in case of an IRS audit after you die (it’s crazy, but it can happen!)

In a separate place—*not* your legacy drawer—give **instructions to access the safe deposit box** where you’ll store copies of all these documents in case your legacy drawer gets destroyed.