**The Everest Mountaineer’s Last Will and Testament**

**Attention:** Your Everest ascent is in the morning. You are ready! You have trained, you have learned about Everest and its dangers and challenges. You have the equipment you need and you have selected the PEAK Experience outfitter.

**Caution:** There is no firm count of the exact number of climbers that have died on [Mount Everest](https://www.thoughtco.com/mount-everest-highest-mountain-in-world-755908), but as of 2016, **about 280 climbers have died, about 6.5 percent** of the more than 4,000 climbers who have reached the summit since the first ascent by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay in 1953.

**YOUR TASK IS TO WRITE YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTEMENT BEFORE YOU CLIMB…JUST IN CASE.**

*(A will or testament is a legal document by which a person, the testator, expresses their wishes as to how their property is to be distributed at death.)*

**FUN FACTS:**

**Two Ways to Die on Mt. Everest**

There are two ways of categorizing death on Mount Everest:-traumatic and non-traumatic. Traumatic deaths occur from the usual hazards of mountaineering-falls, [avalanches](https://www.thoughtco.com/all-about-avalanches-1435309), and extreme weather. These are, however, unusual. Traumatic death injuries usually occur on the lower slopes of Mount Everest rather than up high.

**Most Die from Non-Traumatic Causes**

Most Everest climbers die from non-traumatic causes. Climbers usually die on Mount Everest simply from the effects of exhaustion as well as injuries. Many climbers die from [altitude-related illnesses](https://www.verywell.com/how-acute-mountain-sickness-causes-headaches-1719447), usually high altitude cerebral edema (HACE) and high altitude pulmonary edema (HAPE).

**Fatigue Causes Death**

One of the main factors in Everest climbing deaths is excessive fatigue.

**TASK OUTLINE:** There are four parts to your Last Will and Testament:

1. **Your Last Will:** This is where you can leave certain belongings, items, or talents **to no more than ten classmates/family/people**. Use the following as your model:

Last Will and Testament

I, Michael Daly, being of sound mind and body, do hereby leave the following if I do not survive my ascent to or decent from Everest’s mighty summit:

To Shawn Brown, I leave my Jeep Liberty Sport so you have a backup vehicle.

To Helen Pace, I leave my bottle of Tylenol for 1st periods without me.  
To Miguel Rivera, I leave my original Atari console.

To Jack Maxwell, I leave half of my brain and common sense, please use it. Also, I leave the ability to do more really cool card tricks.

To Joey Arnold, I leave my London Fog fedora so you can carry on the tradition.

1. **BAMS MEMORIES**

**1. Favorite BAMS Memory:** This one is pretty self‐explanatory. Tell a quick story about a few of your favorite memories that you will never forget about BAMS.

1. **The Thing I Will Miss Most About BAMS Is…** Give a description of a few aspects about BAMS that you will miss the most. These entries could include a favorite class, playing hoops at Phillips Arena, Field Day, Playing Quizziz in Daly’s class, etc.
2. **The Thing I Won’t Miss At All About BAMS Is…** Same as above, but now you are describing the things you will NOT miss AT ALL about BAMS. This is your time to vent but remember, keep it appropriate or Mr. Daly will find you.
3. **GOOD BYE NOTE: A short note to your loved ones/family in case you don’t make it back from the climb.**
4. **SIGNATURE – Use the following as your model:**

Signed on this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_\_ at this location \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the presence of the undersigned witnesses.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness 1: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements:**

‐Make sure your name is on it and that you include your signature and two witness signatures.

‐Make sure it is school appropriate!

‐Keep it fairly short and to the point!