

# Preparation makes decisions easier for others



**abigail van buren**

• dear abby

DEAR ABBY: In a recent column I noted the comments of a reader and your response concerning the need to have a will and a living will. As an elder law attorney, I feel strongly that my clients should have two ADDITIONAL documents in place: a health care proxy and a durable power of attorney.

is a durable power of attorney. Many of the issues that were raised in your reader's letter could be addressed if someone had a power of attorney. This document, like the others, can be as broad or as narrow as the individual giving the power of attorney wishes. It is not a relinquishing of authority, but rather a granting of parallel authority, and can easily be revoked.

In a similar fashion, a health care proxy provides the opportunity for

someone to interact with health care providers should the incapacitated individual be unable to make his/her own decisions. — LAWRENCE S. GRAHAM, GREENVILLE, N.C.

DEAR LAWRENCE: Thank you for educating my readers — and me — about these important documents. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Please remind your readers that a living will is not only very important, but a person should also carry a copy while traveling. My husband and I have "prepacked" copies of our living wills in our suitcase so they are always available. Imagine being thousands of miles from home when a crisis arises and those important documents are desperately needed. — ANNE M., ALEXAN-

DRIA, VA.

DEAR ANNE: That's an interesting idea. It never hurts to be prepared.

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest your response to the gentleman who was trying to convince family and friends to complete a living will before they need one. As a nurse for many years, I concur wholeheartedly. No one wakes up in the morning planning to have an accident, or a heart attack, or some other life-threatening condition. Too many times, doctors and nurses are faced with a family divided on what they "think" our patient would want — or not want. Combine this with the shock and grief these people are experiencing, and the situation becomes volatile. — FORMER SURGICAL

NURSE, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

DEAR FORMER NURSE: Thank you for speaking from the perspective of someone who has been in the trenches and seen it firsthand.

DEAR ABBY: I just finished reading your comments to "Concerned Friend." They come on the heels of my recent experience of the last two weeks. My apparently healthy husband was diagnosed with terminal cancer three weeks ago. I have spent a harrowing 10 days trying to get all the necessary documents drafted and finalized. I needed the services of an attorney to make sure all the paperwork was done correctly.

I have also discovered that our finances are a mess. This was always my

husband's job, and I trusted what he said. He had been feeling tired in the last few months, but assured me that he had taken care of all the bills. Well, he hadn't. Fixing this is another nightmare yet to come.

My advice to your readers: Listen to Dear Abby.

By the way, my husband is only 56. We never thought things would be this way. — GRIEVING IN SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

DEAR GRIEVING: When I called you to discuss your letter, I was shocked to learn that your husband had already died. Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. If your experience doesn't galvanize people to action, nothing will.

TUESDAY EVENING		Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone										AUG. 3, 2004	
E	S	6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30		
36	53	A&E	Biography "Carmen Electra" Carmen Electra.	Cold Case Files Police suspect brothers fed murder victims to pigs. (N) (PG-13)	Crossing Jordan "Prisoner Exchange" (N) (PG-13)	Biography "Carmen Electra" Carmen Electra.							
4	6	ABC	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition (N) (PG-13)	According to Jim (N) (PG-13)	NYPD 24/7 "Hour Seven" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) Nightline (N) (PG-13)	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (PG-13)					
26	48	ANPL	King of the Jungle (N) (PG-13)	Most Extreme Nasty animal behaviors. (N) (PG-13)	Animal Cops Houston "Animal Round-Up" (N) (PG-13)	King of the Jungle (N) (PG-13)	Most Extreme Nasty animal behaviors. (N) (PG-13)						
53	54	BRAVO	Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "John K." (N) (PG-13)	Things I Hate About You "Melissa vs. Don" (N) (PG-13)	Queer Eye for the Straight Guy "Al D." (N) (PG-13)	Things I Hate About You "Melissa vs. Don" (N) (PG-13)	The West Wing "20 Hours in America" (N) (PG-13)						
7	11	CBS	Navy NCIS "Enigma" (N) (PG-13)	Big Brother 5 (N) (PG-13)	The Amazing Race 5 (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) Late Show Chris Krentler (N) (PG-13)	The Late Late Show (N) (PG-13)					
24	50	DISC	Desert Crocs Crocodiles. (N) (PG-13)	Silent Warriors: Escape From Saddam (N) (PG-13)	The FBI Files "Domestic Terror" (N) (PG-13)	The FBI Files Prison revolt in Atlanta. (N) (PG-13)	Big "Motorcycle 1" (N) (PG-13)						
33	44	DISN	Kim Possible: The Proud Family (N) (PG-13)	Even Stevens (N) (PG-13)	Lizzie McGuire (N) (PG-13)	Sister, Sister (N) (PG-13)	That's So Raven (N) (PG-13)	"You Wish!" (2003) A.J. Trauth. A teenager wishes that he didn't have a younger brother. (N) (PG-13)					
49	81	EITV	Ult. Blonde (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)	Howard S. (N) (PG-13)	Howard S. (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)					
22	56	ESPN	ESPN2: Who's No. 1 (N) (PG-13)	Series-Poker (N) (PG-13)	Series-Poker (N) (PG-13)	SportsCenter (Live) (N) (PG-13)	Outside (N) (PG-13)	Baseball (N) (PG-13)					
54	57	ESPN2	ATP Tennis: Tennis Masters Series (N) (PG-13)	Boxing: Tuesday -- Jones vs. Wilson (N) (PG-13)	Who's? (N) (PG-13)	The 700 Club (N) (PG-13)	Funnies Home Videos (N) (PG-13)						
32	46	FAM	"Crimes of Fashion" (2004) Kaley Cuoco. (N) (PG-13)	Who's? (N) (PG-13)	Who's? (N) (PG-13)	The 700 Club (N) (PG-13)	Funnies Home Videos (N) (PG-13)						
59	-	FIT TV	Bodies In Shape (N) (PG-13)	Workout (N) (PG-13)	Fitness (N) (PG-13)	Peak Performance (N) (PG-13)	Bodies In Shape (N) (PG-13)	Workout (N) (PG-13)					
35	31	FMC	(:01) *** "Anna and the King of Siam" (N) (PG-13)	Roker on the Road (N) (PG-13)	Roker on the Road (N) (PG-13)	Iron Chef Challenger Katsumi Hanato. (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "Go Fish" (N) (PG-13)						
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live "Go Fish" (N) (PG-13)	Roker on the Road (N) (PG-13)	Roker on the Road (N) (PG-13)	Iron Chef Challenger Katsumi Hanato. (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "Go Fish" (N) (PG-13)						
13	7	FOX	Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy (N) (PG-13)	That '70s Show (N) (PG-13)	Quintuplets (N) (PG-13)	The Fox Report With Shepard Smith (N) (PG-13)	Cagney & Lacey "Waste Deep" (N) (PG-13)	Kojak "Queen of Hearts Live" (N) (PG-13)					
40	38	FX	Cops (N) (PG-13)	Cops (N) (PG-13)	Cops (N) (PG-13)	Cops (N) (PG-13)	Fear Factor (N) (PG-13)	* "The Animal" (2001) Rob Schneider. (N) (PG-13)					
30	55	FXSP	I, Max (N) (PG-13)	Rocky Mt. (N) (PG-13)	Olympics (N) (PG-13)	NASCAR (N) (PG-13)	Sports List (N) (PG-13)	Best Damn Sports Show Period (N) (PG-13)					
5	14	HBO	(5:00) *** "Star Trek: First Contact" (N) (PG-13)	*** "Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones" (2002, Science Fiction) Ewan McGregor. (N) (PG-13)	*** "Dreamcatcher" (2003, Horror) Morgan Freeman. (N) (PG-13)								
62	67	HGTV	Designed Sensible (N) (PG-13)	Decorating (N) (PG-13)	Designers' Designers' (N) (PG-13)	Home Design (N) (PG-13)	Designed Sensible (N) (PG-13)						
58	52	HIST	Tactical to Practical High-speed watercraft. (N) (PG-13)	Tech Effect "Apollo 11" (N) (PG-13)	Mail Call (N) (PG-13)	Wild West Tech "Hunting Tech" (N) (PG-13)	The Most Ancient Taboo: Cannibalism (N) (PG-13)	Tactical to Practical High-speed watercraft. (N) (PG-13)					
25	35	IND	Friends (N) (PG-13)	Friends (N) (PG-13)	Outback Jack (N) (PG-13)	Sex and the City (N) (PG-13)	Sex and the City (N) (PG-13)	Outback Jack (N) (PG-13)					
18	63	LIFE	"A Friend's Betrayal" (N) (PG-13)	"Someone to Love Me: Moment of Truth" (N) (PG-13)	Moment of Truth (N) (PG-13)	Golden (N) (PG-13)	Golden (N) (PG-13)	The Nanny (N) (PG-13)					
23	77	MTV	TRL (TV) (N) (PG-13)	Assistant (N) (PG-13)	Assistant (N) (PG-13)	Direct Effect (N) (PG-13)	Newlywed (N) (PG-13)	Newlywed (N) (PG-13)					
3	9	NBC	News (N) (PG-13)	Ent. Tonight (N) (PG-13)	Last Comic Standing "Vote" (N) (PG-13)	Last Comic Standing "Vote" (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Painless" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) The Tonight Show (N) (PG-13)	(:37) Late Night (N) (PG-13)			
8	8	NBC	Last Comic Standing "Wild Card Show" (N) (PG-13)	Last Comic Standing "Vote" (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Painless" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) The Tonight Show (N) (PG-13)	(:37) Late Night (N) (PG-13)					
34	43	NICK	SpongeBob/Romeo! (N) (PG-13)	Fatherhood (N) (PG-13)	Cosby (N) (PG-13)	Cosby (N) (PG-13)	Cosby (N) (PG-13)	Cosby (N) (PG-13)					
2	2	PBS	Nova "Last Flight of Bomber 31" (DVS) (N) (PG-13)	The Real Olympics "Death or Glory" (N) (PG-13)	P.O.V. "A Family Undertaking" (N) (PG-13)	BBC World News (N) (PG-13)	That's My Boy (N) (PG-13)	Charlie Rose (N) (N) (PG-13)					
38	83	SCIFI	(5:00) * "Reptilian" (N) (PG-13)	"Monster!" (1999) M. Emmet Walsh. (N) (PG-13)	* "Rats" (2003) Sara Downing. (N) (PG-13)								
61	41	SPK	MXC (N) (PG-13)	MXC (N) (PG-13)	Real TV (N) (PG-13)	Real TV (N) (PG-13)	Wildcat Police Videos (N) (PG-13)	Star Trek: Next Gener. (N) (PG-13)					
39	51	TLC	While You Were Out (N) (PG-13)	Clean Sweep Embarrassing home office. (N) (PG-13)	In a Fix (N) (PG-13)	Mega Machines "Gate-breaker and Jaw" (N) (PG-13)	Overhaul! Dad's 1970 Monte Carlo. (N) (PG-13)						
28	37	TNT	Law & Order "Rebels" (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order "Tabloid" (N) (PG-13)	Charmed "Used Karma" (N) (PG-13)	Angel "Epiphany" (N) (PG-13)	The X-Files "Orison" (N) (PG-13)						
51	86	TRAV	Food Crazy (N) (PG-13)	Made (N) (PG-13)	Made (N) (PG-13)	World Poker Tour (N) (PG-13)	Made (N) (PG-13)						
21	82	TVLND	Bonanza (N) (PG-13)	Addams F. (N) (PG-13)	GreenAcre (N) (PG-13)	Griffith (N) (PG-13)	Leave (N) (PG-13)	3's Co. (N) (PG-13)	3's Co. (N) (PG-13)	All-Family (N) (PG-13)	Sanford (N) (PG-13)		
60	89	UNIV	Mariana de la Noche (N) (PG-13)	Amarte es Mi Pecado (N) (PG-13)	Al Filo de la Ley (N) (PG-13)	Impacto (N) (PG-13)	Noticiero (N) (PG-13)	En las Mejores Familias (N) (PG-13)					
20	34	USA	Law & Order (N) (PG-13)	* "Billy Madison" (1995) Adam Sandler. (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order (N) (PG-13)								
12	3	WB	Friends (N) (PG-13)	Everybody-Raymond (N) (PG-13)	Gilmore Girls "The Reigning Lorelai" (N) (PG-13)	Summerland "Life in the Fishbowl" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	Friends (N) (PG-13)	Will & Grace (N) (PG-13)				
99	36	WGN	Becker (N) (PG-13)	Becker (N) (PG-13)	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Colorado Rockies. (Live) (N) (PG-13)	WGN News at Nine (N) (PG-13)	Becker (N) (PG-13)	Becker (N) (PG-13)	Eliminate (N) (PG-13)	5th Wheel (N) (PG-13)			

WEDNESDAY EVENING		Eagle Cable S=S&T Telephone										AUG. 4, 2004	
E	S	6 pm	6:30	7 pm	7:30	8 pm	8:30	9 pm	9:30	10 pm	10:30		
36	53	A&E	Biography: Christina Onassis: Everything (N) (PG-13)	American Justice "Murder in Paradise" (N) (PG-13)	City Confidential "Tyler: Fallen Rose" (N) (PG-13)	Crossing Jordan "Ockham's Razor" (N) (PG-13)	Biography: Christina Onassis: Everything (N) (PG-13)						
4	6	ABC	My Wife and Kids (N) (PG-13)	My Wife and Kids (N) (PG-13)	Drew Carey (N) (PG-13)	Drew Carey (N) (PG-13)	Jesus, Mary and Da Vinci (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) Nightline (N) (PG-13)	(:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (PG-13)			
26	48	ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter Diaries (N) (PG-13)	Venom ER (N) (PG-13)	Animal Cops Houston Abandoned ostriches. (N) (PG-13)	The Crocodile Hunter Diaries (N) (PG-13)	Venom ER (N) (PG-13)						
63	54	BRAVO	*** "La Bamba" (1987, Biography) Lou Diamond Phillips. A fact-based account of Ritchie Valens (1941-59) career. (N) (PG-13)	The West Wing (N) (PG-13)	The West Wing "20 Hours in America" (N) (PG-13)	Things I Hate About You "Melissa vs. Don" (N) (PG-13)							
7	11	CBS	60 Minutes (N) (PG-13)	The King of Queens (N) (PG-13)	The King of Queens (N) (PG-13)	48 Hours Mystery "For Love or Money" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) Late Show (N) (PG-13)	The Late Late Show (N) (PG-13)				
24	50	DISC	Jurassic Reef (N) (PG-13)	Real Miami Cops Police prepare for a vice sting. (N) (PG-13)	Giant Cranes (N) (PG-13)	Skyscraper at Sea (N) (PG-13)	Oakland Bay Bridge (N) (PG-13)						
33	44	DISN	Kim Possible: The Proud Family (N) (PG-13)	Even Stevens (N) (PG-13)	Lizzie McGuire (N) (PG-13)	Sister, Sister (N) (PG-13)	That's So Raven (N) (PG-13)	* "Seventeen Again" (2000, Fantasy) Tia Mowry, Tamara Mowry. (N) (PG-13)					
49	81	EITV	Holly (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)	Howard S. (N) (PG-13)	Howard S. (N) (PG-13)	Holly (N) (PG-13)					
22	56	ESPN	(5:00) MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (N) (PG-13)	Baseball Tonight (N) (PG-13)	SportsCenter (Live) (N) (PG-13)	Outside (N) (PG-13)	Baseball (N) (PG-13)						
54	57	ESPN2	ATP Tennis: Tennis Masters Series (N) (PG-13)	Tennis (N) (PG-13)	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) (N) (PG-13)	The 700 Club (N) (PG-13)	Videos (N) (PG-13)						
32	46	FAM	*** "Blazing Saddles" (1974) Cleavon Little. (N) (PG-13)	Who's? (N) (PG-13)	Who's? (N) (PG-13)	The 700 Club (N) (PG-13)	Videos (N) (PG-13)						
59	-	FIT TV	Bodies In Shape (N) (PG-13)	Workout (N) (PG-13)	Fitness (N) (PG-13)	Peak Performance (N) (PG-13)	Bodies In Shape (N) (PG-13)	Workout (N) (PG-13)					
35	31	FMC	(:01) *** "Drums Along the Mohawk" (1939) (N) (PG-13)	Hour of Stars (N) (PG-13)	(:01) *** "The Doctor and the Devils" (1985) (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "A Taste of Abuzzi" (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "A Taste of Abuzzi" (N) (PG-13)						
53	68	FOOD	Emeril Live "A Taste of Abuzzi" (N) (PG-13)	Hour of Stars (N) (PG-13)	(:01) *** "The Doctor and the Devils" (1985) (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "A Taste of Abuzzi" (N) (PG-13)	Emeril Live "A Taste of Abuzzi" (N) (PG-13)						
13	7	FOX	That '70s Show (N) (PG-13)	Quintuplets (N) (PG-13)	The Simple Life 2 (N) (PG-13)	The Simple Life 2 (N) (PG-13)	The Fox Report With Shepard Smith (N) (PG-13)	Cagney & Lacey "Favor" (N) (PG-13)	Kojak "A Strange Kind of Love" (N) (PG-13)				
40	38	FX	* "The Animal" (2001) Rob Schneider. (N) (PG-13)	Fear Factor (N) (PG-13)	* "Behind Enemy Lines" (2001) Owen Wilson. (N) (PG-13)								
30	55	FXSP	I, Max (N) (PG-13)	Rockies (N) (PG-13)	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Colorado Rockies. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) (N) (PG-13)	Rocky Mt. (N) (PG-13)	I, Max (N) (PG-13)						
5	14	HBO	"Malibu's Most" (N) (PG-13)	*** "Dances With Wolves" (1990, Western) Kevin Costner. (N) (PG-13)	Collateral: First Look (N) (PG-13)	Six Feet Under (N) (PG-13)							
62	67	HGTV	House Spaces (N) (PG-13)	Weekend Mission (N) (PG-13)	Curb (N) (PG-13)	Home Smart (N) (PG-13)	House Spaces (N) (PG-13)						
58	52	HIST	Modern Marvels "Breweries" (N) (PG-13)	Modern Marvels "Sa-loons; speakeasies." (N) (PG-13)	Modern Marvels "History of alcohol distilling." (N) (PG-13)	Hooked: Illegal Drugs and How They Got (N) (PG-13)	Modern Marvels "Breweries" (N) (PG-13)						
25	35	IND	Family Guy (N) (PG-13)	Family Guy (N) (PG-13)	Seinfeld "The Pie" (N) (PG-13)	Sex and the City (N) (PG-13)	Sex and the City (N) (PG-13)	*** "Something to Talk About" (1995, Comedy-Drama) Julia Roberts, Dennis Quaid. (N) (PG-13)					
18	63	LIFE	"Between Love" (N) (PG-13)	"Sweet Dreams" (1996) Tiffani-Amber Thiessen. (N) (PG-13)	Golden (N) (PG-13)	Golden (N) (PG-13)	The Nanny (N) (PG-13)						
23	77	MTV	TRL (TV) (N) (PG-13)	Ashlee (N) (PG-13)	Ashlee (N) (PG-13)	Hard Rock (N) (PG-13)	Newlywed (N) (PG-13)	Newlywed (N) (PG-13)					
3	9	NBC	News (N) (PG-13)	Ent. Tonight (N) (PG-13)	Next Action Star A high-stakes gambler makes a life-or-death bet with a former NFL player. (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order "Can I Get a Witness?" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) The Tonight Show (N) (PG-13)	(:37) Late Night (N) (PG-13)				
8	8	NBC	Next Action Star A high-stakes gambler makes a life-or-death bet with a former NFL player. (N) (PG-13)	Law & Order "Can I Get a Witness?" (N) (PG-13)	News (N) (PG-13)	(:35) The Tonight Show (N) (PG-13)	(:37) Late Night (N) (PG-13)						
34	43	NICK	SpongeBob/Amanda (N) (PG-13)	Full House (N) (PG-13)	Full House (N) (PG-13)								