

## Horror Stories

“My family has recently experienced a triple tax. My grandfather paid income taxes on his income when he earned it. When he passed away two years ago it was taxed again. My mother then suddenly passed away this past spring and we were taxed again. Effectively an 88% tax rate.”

Lynn Marie Hoopingarner – West Hollywood, CA

“We currently must spend over \$100,000 a year on life insurance to cover future death tax concerns. These monies could be spent more wisely within our business on growth programs.”

Karen B. Caplan – Los Alamitos, CA

“We just recently learned that we would not have the cash to pay estate taxes if we were to die. The company would be liquidated. Life insurance will cost \$15,000-\$45,000 for a year. For \$2,000,000 in coverage – which would still not cover all estate taxes. We’re in limbo on what to do. Attorneys are currently advising us.”

Karen Oman – Minneapolis, MN

“Responding to advice from both attorney and accountants, we purchased life insurance to try to plan for estate taxes. To date, over \$400,000 in premiums that could have been invested in our business!”

Suzanne Sykes – Waldwick, NJ

“Over the generations, much time and money has been spent in attorney advice and life insurance to keep the business from being forced to be sold at the death of the owner.”

Karen Wilson – Romulus, MI

“My father passed away 10/90. His estate for tax purposes was assessed at 7.7 million dollars, so approximately 3.8 million was owed in death and estate taxes. Most of my father’s estate was in real estate and shortly after the six month period after his death, real estate took a dive. And every piece of property we sold to pay taxes sold at about 40% of what it was appraised at time of death. Well it has been ten years since my father’s passing and we have still not seen any money. If and I do mean if we are lucky, then maybe at the end of this year after we pay the last \$350,000 to federal and pay the state, my mother, sister and I may have all of \$200,000 to split between us. Great.”

Michael Stern