EPITAPH DOCUMENTARIAN PROJECT:

**YOUR TASK:** You are a historian from a group-chosen era that you have studied this year in your social studies class. You have been chosen to document the lives of several members of a community that may have existed during this era. You want to provide as much insight and information into the positive and negative aspects of individual lives of the members of this community as well as to the community as a whole through a presentation of the epitaphs of the deceased members of the community.

In order to complete this task, you must first go through the writing process to create the epitaphs you will be using in your documentary. Be sure that the epitaphs you write deal with issues that are relevant to the era you have chosen. You may use names of real people of the era or imaginary people. Review the Spoon River Anthology epitaphs, and you may peruse some of the shorter epitaphs from this website:

<http://www.famousquotes.me.uk/epitaphs/index.htm>

Specifically, look at this:
<http://www.famousquotes.me.uk/epitaphs/17.htm> (Benjamin Franklin’s Epitaph)
<http://www.famousquotes.me.uk/epitaphs/9.htm> (George Washington’s Epitaph)
<http://www.famousquotes.me.uk/epitaphs/34.htm> (Epitaph from the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier)

Notice how so much information can be inferred about these people just by the words written on their tombstones.

Complete the The Epitaph of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Graphic Organizer to help you determine what information needs to be included in your epitaph. Feel free to consult with your group members to help you best develop the character you are creating.

You may choose to present your epitaphs in any way. While the epitaphs do need to be published using a word processor, you may present them in any way you wish. You might consider tapping into some of your groups strengths like art, technology, costuming, building, etc. You might consider using 21st century tools like Voki, Glogster, VoiceThread, video, PowerPoint, etc. Do not limit your creativity, but do remember you are on a time limit. You have 7 days to complete this assignment. Spend some time brainstorming and planning what your group wants to do, then split up the responsibilities. Create a chart as evidence of your planning and determine how much time is going to be needed inside or outside of class. Time and task management are going to be key in successfully completing this project. REVIEW THE RUBRIC.

You will be meeting with your teacher throughout this assignment to discuss the things you have discovered, your progress through the writing process, the ideas you have, and the direction you want to take with your character development and your project. Good Luck!