

Estate Planning: Lessons Learned From James Gandolfini and Tony Soprano

James Gandolfini passed away from an apparent heart attack while on vacation in Rome in June of 2013. Gandolfini was most well known for portraying New Jersey mob boss, Tony Soprano, on the award winning HBO TV series, The Sopranos. There are many estate planning lessons that can be learned from James Gandolfini and Tony Soprano.

The most important lesson that can be learned from Gandolfini and Soprano is that you never know when your time is up. Tony Soprano and his crew lived their lives under constant fear and stress that they could be clipped at any time by a rival family or various other enemies or competition. While Gandolfini's real life did not contain such danger the lesson that you never know when your end is near also applied as he suffered a sudden and fatal health event that was as unexpected as being shot by a hit man in a diner during a family dinner. Living everyday life is as dangerous as being a boss of a crime family with health risks such as a heart attack or stroke and the consequences of everyday life such as driving a car and being in an accident. The need of estate planning is present for anyone over the age of 18 as Gandolfini was relatively young at the age of 18.

Another important lesson from Gandolfini and Soprano is to make sure the family is protected. Tony Soprano's wife continually worried about her and her kid's life if anything were to ever happen to him throughout the Sopranos series. Soprano's response was always to tell her not to worry and that everything was taken care of. We will never know if Soprano's estate plan worked in the series, but Gandolfini left behind a family of his own including a wife and eight month old daughter and two children from his previous marriage including his 13 year old son who was with him in Italy at the time of his death. While Gandolfini may have left behind enough assets with \$1 million salary per episode earnings on the Sopranos as well as other roles, many others do not leave behind as much when they die suddenly leaving a young family behind. Often it is more important the way assets are left behind than the amount as proper planning can make sure protections are in place to make sure a family is protected for the long term. Life insurance can also be helpful in making sure there is enough for a surviving family to live on when the main earner departs. For full article please visit [James Gandolfini: Estate Planning Lessons From Tony Soprano](http://estateplanning.ekglaw.com/) at <http://estateplanning.ekglaw.com/>

Evan Guthrie Law Firm is licensed to practice law throughout the state of South Carolina. The Evan Guthrie Law Firm practices in the areas of estate planning probate personal injury and divorce and family law. For further information visit his website at <http://www.ekglaw.com> .
Evan Guthrie Law Firm 164 Market Street Suite 362 Charleston SC 29401 843-926-3813