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pred·e·ces·sor  (prĕd ĭ-sĕs'ər, prē dĭ-)

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n.

1. One who precedes another in time, especially in holding an office or position.
2. Something that has been succeeded by another: *The new building is more spacious than its predecessor.*
3. An ancestor; a forebear.

[Middle English *predecessoure*, from Old French *predecesseur*, from Late Latin *praedēcessor* : Latin *prae-*, pre- + Latin *dēcessor*, a retiring magistrate (from *dēcessus*, past participle of *dēcēdere*, to depart : *dē-*, away; see [DE-](#) + *cēdere*, to go; see **ked-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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