An Open Letter to Microsoft Access:
Here's Why You Were Ghosted

Dear Microsoft Access,

I disappeared on you with no explanation. And you've probably been wondering why. Being ghosted is confusing. It feels awful. It's hard to make sense of it.

I felt badly about going dark on you so I'm here now to answer these burning questions:

"*What happened?*" and "*Why are you no longer part of my workday?*"

In some ways, this isn't your fault. You're very good at what you do. But you are who you are, and the truth is that I need something else—something you can't give me.

I need Power BI in my work life.

There, I said it. I'm exclusive with Power BI now.

Who could blame me for being so taken by Power BI? I mean, seriously, have you seen its visualization abilities?!

There's no denying the pull of Power BI. Power BI helps me tell a story. All you can do, Microsoft Access, is push out a plain old, boring report.

And what can I say about Power BI's visuals, graphs, and scatter plots? Everyone can see that Power BI's output is, well, swoon worthy.

Sure, I remember some good times with you. Access, you were the first to help me understand that data is the asset. Honestly, there's nothing that can take your place when it comes to data input.

But your total data capabilities are limited, and you have your fair share of weaknesses. Don't believe me? Well, for starters, you offer little to no real security. Frankly, you're at risk for hacking. Not to mention that there are easy-to-get macros that can break your password protection in a nano second.

I have to say, however, that I appreciate the time we had together. You were great … for a while.

If I had to boil it down to one thing, I'd say that your biggest problem is that you're too complicated, what with your data types, tables, relationships, coding, and connections. It's all just too much, and I had to try too hard to make things work.

Then along came Power BI and it swept me off my desktop.

Power BI is so easy to get along with. It's simple, easy, and uncomplicated. It doesn't hurt that its output looks oh-so good.

Lastly, Power BI has something else you don't: support from IT. So even if we hit a bumpy patch, it's all good. We just book time with Jessie Faust, Developer, Analytics and Business Intelligence. Or we open a help ticket and we're back in business before you know it.

Please don't be upset with me. I honestly didn't know what to say to you. But I've come clean. It's over and now you know why.

Thanks for the memories, Access. You helped me see what true work productivity happiness is. I hope you're as happy for me as I am, thanks to Power BI.

Best wishes,
Me