Here's what the letters behind the Medicare number mean:

- ***A** = retired worker
- **B** = wife of retired worker
- **B1** = husband of retired worker
- **B6** = divorced wife
- **B9** = divorced second wife
- **C** = child of retired or deceased worker; numbers after C denote order of children claiming benefit
- **D** = widow
- D1 = widower
- **D6** = surviving divorced wife
- **E** = mother of a child of a deceased worker
- E1 = divorced mother of a child of a deceased worker
- **F1** = aged dependent father
- F2 = aged dependent mother
- ***HA** = disabled worker
- **HB** = wife of disabled worker
- **HC** = child of disabled worker
- *J1 = special "over 72" benefit, has A and B
- **K1** = wife of "over 72" benefit, has A and B
- *M = has Part B Medicare only, no SSA benefit
- *T = has A and B Medicare, no SSA benefit
- W = disabled widow
- **WA** = railroad retirement

*denotes the recipient's own social security number.