

MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH

County Daviess  
Township Salem  
or  
Village  
or  
City (NO. St. Ward)

Registration District No. 249 File No. 34673  
Primary Registration District No. 4149 Registered No. 14

[If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.]

2 FULL NAME Sylvester Smith

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

3 SEX M. 4 COLOR OR RACE Wh 5 SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED Widower  
(Write the word)

16 DATE OF DEATH 2 Oct 23 1917  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

6 DATE OF BIRTH Aug 18 1839  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from Jan 1 1917 to Oct 23 1917  
(that I last saw him alive on Oct 23 1917)

7 AGE 78 yrs. 1 mos. 5 ds. It LESS than 1 day... hrs. or... min.?

and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 10 a.m.

The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Retired Farmer  
(b) General nature of industry business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) Farming

Heart Failure due to insufficient nerve force  
87B

9 BIRTHPLACE (City or town, State or foreign country) Miami Co Ind.

(Duration) 79 yrs. mos. ds.

10 NAME OF FATHER Mrs Smith

CONTRIBUTORY (Secondary) 8 (Duration) yrs. mos. ds.

11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (City or town, State or foreign country) Ky

(Signed) J A Burtat M. D.

12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Plasters

10/27 1917 (Address) Coffey Mo.

13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (City or town, State or foreign country) Ky.

\*State the Disease Causing Death, or, in death from Violent Causes, state (1) Means of Injury; and (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal or Homicidal.

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) M. G. Dowell

18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Transients, or Recent Residents)

At place of death... yrs... mos... ds. In the State... yrs... mos... ds.

Where was disease contracted if not at place of death?

Former or usual residence

(Address) Gilman City Mo

19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL McClary Ave DATE OF BURIAL 10-28 1917

15 Filed 10-27 1917 J A Burtat Registrar

20 UNDERTAKER W. G. Burtat ADDRESS Coffey Mo

This certificate is valid only when printed in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. PHYSICIANS should state

# Revised United States Standard Certificate of Death

[Approved by U. S. Census and American Public Health  
Association]

**Statement of occupation.**—Precise statement of occupation is very important, so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits can be known. The question applies to each and every person, irrespective of age. For many occupations a single word or term on the first line will be sufficient, e. g., *Farmer or Planter, Physician, Compositor, Architect, Locomotive engineer, Civil engineer, Stationary fireman*, etc. But in many cases, especially in industrial employments, it is necessary to know (a) the kind of work and also (b) the nature of the business or industry, and therefore an additional line is provided for the latter statement; it should be used only when needed. As examples: (a) *Spinner*, (b) *Cotton mill*; (a) *Salesman*, (b) *Grocery*; (a) *Foreman*, (b) *Automobile factory*. The material worked on may form part of the second statement. Never return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification, as *Day laborer, Farm laborer, Laborer—Coal mine*, etc. Women at home, who are engaged in the duties of the household only (not paid *Housekeepers* who receive a definite salary), may be entered as *Housewife, Housework*, or *At home*, and children, not gainfully employed, as *At school* or *At home*. Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service for wages, as *Servant, Cook, Housemaid*, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on account of the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, state occupation at beginning of illness. If retired from business, that fact may be indicated thus: *Farmer (retired, 6 yrs.)* For persons who have no occupation whatever, write *None*.

**Statement of cause of death.**—Name, first, the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH (the primary affection with respect to time and causation), using always the same accepted term for the same disease. Examples: *Cerebrospinal fever* (the only definite synonym is "Epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis"); *Diphtheria* (avoid use of "Croup"); *Typhoid fever* (never report "Typhoid pneumonia"); *Lobar pneumonia*; *Bronchopneumonia* ("Pneumonia," unqualified, is indefinite); *Tuberculosis of lungs, meninges, peritonaeum*, etc., *Carcinoma, Sarcoma*, etc., of ..... (name origin; "Cancer" is less definite; avoid

use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasms); *Measles; Whooping cough; Chronic valvular heart disease; Chronic interstitial nephritis*, etc. The contributory (secondary or intercurrent) affection need not be stated unless important. Example: *Measles* (disease causing death), *29 ds.*; *Bronchopneumonia* (secondary), *10 ds.* Never report mere symptoms or terminal conditions, such as "Asthenia," "Anaemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Haemorrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uraemia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from childbirth or miscarriage, as "*PUERPERAL septicaemia*," "*PUERPERAL peritonitis*," etc. State cause for which surgical operation was undertaken. For VIOLENT DEATHS state MEANS OF INJURY and qualify as ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, OR HOMICIDAL, or as *probably* such, if impossible to determine definitely. Examples: *Accidental drowning; Struck by railway train—accident; Revolver wound of head—homicide; Poisoned by carbolic acid—probably suicide*. The nature of the injury, as fracture of skull, and consequences (e. g., *sepsis, tetanus*) may be stated under the head of "Contributory." (Recommendations on statement of cause of death approved by Committee on Nomenclature of the American Medical Association.)