

**MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

**1 PLACE OF DEATH**

County Wayne Registration District No. 891 File No. 12 40411  
 Township Benton or Village          Primary Registration District No. 6191 Registered No. 13  
 City          (NO.          St.          Ward         )

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

**2 FULL NAME** Mary Elizabeth Sparks

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

**MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

**3 SEX** Female **4 COLOR OR RACE** W-Am **5 SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED** Married  
(Write the word)

**16 DATE OF DEATH** November 9th, 1917  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

**6 DATE OF BIRTH** July 25, 1843  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

**17 I HEREBY CERTIFY**, that I attended deceased from 11/1 1917 to 11/10 1917  
 that I last saw her alive on 11/9 1917  
 and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at          m.

**7 AGE** 74 yrs. 3 mos. 14 ds. **If LESS than 1 day, hrs. or min.?**         

The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:

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

108  
92  
 (Duration)          yrs.          mos.          ds.

**9 BIRTHPLACE**  
 (City or town, State or foreign country) Tennessee

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

**10 NAME OF FATHER** Niel Burnyard

(Signed)          M. D.

**11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER**  
 (City or town, State or foreign country) Tennessee, USA

(Address)         

**12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER** Martha McChes

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

**13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER**  
 (City or town, State or foreign country) Tennessee

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

**14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE**

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

(Informant) Mrs. Sallie Dunnegan  
 (Address) Piedmont, Mo

Where was disease contracted if not at place of death?         

Former or usual residence         

**15**  
 Filed 11-10 1917 J. Freeman  
 Registrar

**19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL** Piedmont Cemetery **DATE OF BURIAL** November 11, 1917

**20 UNDERTAKER** Wm. J. Powers **ADDRESS** Piedmont, Mo

N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

# 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.)