

**D Obituaries pre-1923, not previously shared  
(from Monica Schirmer Eshelman)**

**Date of death: 13 Jun 1909**

**Subject: Lynn (or Lem) Daggett**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 15 Jun 1909, p. 1**

Maryville, Mo., June 14.—After having lost her little daughter through sickness last week, Mrs. Daggett, a widow, was shocked today to find her 7 year old son, Lem, dead in a water tank on the farm of Frank Bell, six miles south of Maryville.

The boy had gone out into the field with a number of the hands and shortly afterward started to return to the house. The water in the tank where he was found was but six inches deep. It is believed his head hit the bottom of the tank, that he was rendered unconscious, and was afterward drowned.

Mrs. Daggett is working as a domestic on the Bell farm.

**Date of death: Oct 1903**

**Subject: Homer B. Darrah**

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 7 Oct 1903, p. 2**

Savannah, Mo., Oct. 7.—The funeral of Homer Darrah will be conducted this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Episcopal Church, after which the remains will be interred in the Savannah cemetery. Homer was fifteen years old and was employed at the Burlington depot.

**Date of death: Jun 1904**

**Subject: Elizabeth (Davidson) Chandler**

**Source: *St. Joseph News & Press*, 27 Jun 1904, p. 6**

R. P. Davidson, city plumbing inspector, has received news of the death of his sister, Mrs. Edward Chandlar [sic], who lived five miles west of Rosendale, Mo. The funeral will be at Filmore [sic] tomorrow forenoon. She leaves a husband and two small children, two sisters who live in Iowa, and a brother.

**Date of death: 20 May 1901**

**Subject: James Davis**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 22 May 1901, p. 5**

James Davis, a laborer living in Richmond addition, near Florence, died of smallpox on Monday night, and was buried at midnight at the city cemetery.

**Date of death: 9 Oct 1911**

**Subject: John Oliver Davis\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 10 Oct 1911, p. 1**

John Davis, a negro, keeper of a resort at 1313 South Eighth street, was shot and killed by another negro, John Davis [sic], yesterday afternoon.

Witnesses told the police and Coroner C. F. Byrd that the trouble arose over the price of a pair of rubber heels, one of the Davises declaring that it would cost a quarter of a dollar to have them put on, while the other contended that it would cost 40 cents.

The murdered negro was shot in the back, which does not coincide with the statements of negroes who saw the shooting, who asserted that the slain man was chasing the other Davis with a knife. A "skinning" knife was found in the back yard of the house near where Davis fell when shot. Two women and two men who were in the room when the row started carried Davis in and put him on a bed. He died within three minutes after being shot.

As the slayer turned north into Eighth street and started for the Burlington and Rock Island railway tracks, he told other negroes that he had killed Davis. The negro who was killed came to St. Joseph from Kansas City and is said to have been giving the police a good deal of trouble as a bootlegger. The negro who did the shooting is a railway section hand and is said to have come from Tennessee.

**same**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 11 Oct 1911, p. 3**

John Davis, shown here, the negro who shot and killed another negro named John Davis following a dispute on South Eighth street Monday afternoon over the price of rubber heels, is believed to have left the city. The police do not think he has gone far, however. His description on the records of Patrick Ryan, superintendent of identification, shows that he is 22 or 23 years old, is 5 feet 7 1/2 inches in height, weighs about 155 pounds and has a scar on his forehead. He is a black negro.

**Date of death: 30 Nov 1909**

**Subject: Ruth Virginia Davis**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Dec 1909, p. 8**

The 3 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, who live at 6310 Brown street, was severely burned last Saturday by the upsetting of a bowl of hot gravy from the effects of the burns yesterday morning.

The Davis family is in straightened circumstances and the father made application at the Cherokee avenue police station yesterday afternoon for aid in providing for the burial of the child. A subscription paper was started and the liberal hearted South End people soon had a fund for the aid of the ... father and mother.

**same**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 30 Nov 1909, p. 11**

Ruth Davis, three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Davis, 6210 Brown street, died Monday evening as the result of burns sustained Saturday evening. Pneumonia developed soon after the child was burned.

The mother of the little girl was preparing supper when the accident occurred. She emptied a skillet of gravy into a bowl and set it on the table. The child seeing a piece of bread on the same table, climbed on a stool and reached for it. In doing so she fell and upset the bowl of gravy. As the child fell backwards her clothing flew up and the contents of the bowl was dashed against the bare flesh. A physician was summoned but the burns were so severe that he could do little to relieve the child. Funeral arrangements have not been made.

**Date of death: 7 Mar 1909**

**Subject: W. P. Davis\***

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 8 Mar 1909, p. 5**

W. P. Davis, a negro prisoner in the county jail, died Sunday morning after having been operated on for appendicitis at St. Joseph's Hospital. He had refused to be operated on several weeks ago when he was first stricken, but when attacked ... was performed. Davis was awaiting trial on a charge of burglary. ... mother at Hannibal.

**Date of death: 1 Nov 1904**

**Subject: William Davis\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 2 Nov 1904, p. 7**

William Davis, a negro, aged 49 years, died at 2 o'clock yesterday morning at the family home, 546 North Second street. Interment will be at Warrensburg, Mo.

**Date of death: 4 Dec 1906**

**Subject: Mrs. Nancy Davison**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 6 Dec 1906, p. 6**

Savannah, Mo., Dec. 6.-- Mrs. Anson Davis [sic] died at the home of her grandson, Joseph Boatright, Tuesday, and was buried yesterday in the Daily Cemetery, near Kodiak. Mrs. Davison was ninety-seven years old.

**Date of death: 16 Apr 1905**

**Subject: Littlebury Hardiman Deaton**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 26 Apr 1905, p. 3**

Bolckow, Mo., April 26.—L. H. Deaton, one of the oldest settlers of Andrew County, died at his home in Bolckow, April 16, at the age of ninety years. Mr. Deaton was a highly respected citizen and had a host of friends.

**Date of death: 18 Dec 1909**

**Subject: Isaac H. DeCoursey (or Decourcy)**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Dec 1909, p. 1**

I. H. Decoursey, a carpenter, was stricken with apoplexy at the Burris & Windish livery barn, 1926 Frederick avenue, at 10 o'clock this forenoon, and died while he was being carried to Mrs. Mary Ferguson's boarding house, 1928 Colhoun street, where he had been living for the last eight months.

DeCoursey was sixty-four years old and his home is in Savannah, where he has a wife and four children. He had been employed in St. Joseph by the J. C. O'Hair Construction Company, but did not go to work this morning on account of feeling badly.

DeCoursey went into the livery barn where he sat in the office and talked with the employes of the place. After he had been there about a half an hour, he suddenly rose from his chair and pitched forward. Several men were in the room when he fell and they carried him to his boarding house. Coroner C. F. Byrd was notified and views the body. He decided that the cause of death was apoplexy.

The surviving children range in age from seven to fifteen years. The body was removed to an undertaking establishment and will probably be sent to Savannah for burial.

**Date of death: [17] Jan 1913**

**Subject: Casmir Deitz**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 18 Jan 1913, p. 6**

After lying undisturbed for several days, the body of Casmir Deitz, 47 years old, formerly a farmer living near ..., Mo., was found yesterday morning in some timber near the Platte ... the Rock Island railroad bridge northeast of Saxton. The body was found by the farmer's children, who reported it to their father. Near the body was a small vial which had contained sulphuric acid and about ten feet away were the charred remains of an overcoat [sic]. Coroner T. H. Lynch was notified and the body was sent to Rock & Clark's.

Rock, who went after the body, said the man from all appearances had been dead at least ten days. Deitz is believed to have committed suicide. He formerly owned a small farm in the neighborhood where his body was found. He sold it several years ago and went west. Returning to Missouri last spring he occupied his time with small jobs, never staying long in one place. So far as is known the only survivors are a brother and a sister living in Pennsylvania. No inquest will be held.

**Date of death: 16 Oct 1909**

**Subject: Margaret Delay**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Oct 1909, p. 4**

Miss Margaret Delay, aged forty-three years, died at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the home of Mrs. M. E. Franklin, 1808 Bartlett street. The body will be sent to Amazonia, Mo., for burial.

**Date of death: 26 Mar 1902**

**Subject: Catherine (Dersch) May**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 27 Mar 1902, p. 5**

Mrs. Catherine May, aged ... years died at 10:05 o'clock Wednesday night at the family home, ... Second street, after a lingering illness of ... weeks. The deceased was the widow of Frederick May, and was well known in German circles, being a life-long member and prominent worker in the Germany Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mrs. May was born October ... 1833, in Hesse Kassell, Germany, and came to America in 1857, reaching St. Joseph two ... later. She was married to Frederick May August 15, 1865, and for ... years lived in Brunswick, Mo., returning here after the death of her husband.

The surviving members of the family are Charles J., a member of the Gazette-Herald editorial staff, Henry A. and Miss Emma of St. Joseph, Mrs. J. W. Abel of Granite City, Ill., and John F. and William D. of Newton, Kan. All but the two last named were at the bedside when death came. The deceased is also survived by a brother, William Dersch of this city, two sisters, Mrs. Emma Vennekohl of Cosby, Mo., and Mrs. Katherine Schrage of Oklahoma, and her aged mother.

No arrangements have yet been made for the funeral.

**Date of death: 2 May 1904**

**Subject: Thomas Dickerson**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 3 May 1904, p. 4**

The funeral of Thomas Dickerson, who died at his home in the rear of 507 North Second street, will be held this morning at 9:30 and interment will be in the city cemetery.

**Date of death: 16 Jan 1921**

**Subject: Robert Dixon**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 17 Jan 1921, p. 1**

Robert Dixon, forty-five years old, day clerk at the Pilcher Hotel, 403 South Sixth street, committed suicide at the home of Miss Dora Crouse, 1515 Penn street, yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Dixon was spending the day at the home of Miss Crouse, to whom he is said to have been engaged to be married. He went to a room on the second floor and stuffed the openings with pieces of carpet, then opened two gas jets. After he had been in the room some time, occupants of the house detected the odor of gas and discovered Dixon dead.

The suicide was undoubtedly premeditated as Dixon had left a letter with Robert Pilcher, his employer, in which he said that he owed Miss Crouse some money and asked Pilcher to pay her \$12 due him, and that she be permitted to dispose of his personal belongings in his room at the hotel. He gave Pilcher the address of his sister, Mrs. George Phelps, 610 Ten avenue, Clinton, Iowa. Mr. Pilcher telegraphed the sister yesterday, but no reply had been received this forenoon.

Dixon is said to have been despondent for some time. He seemed to be brooding over the fact that he couldn't get ahead in the world. He had no bad habits, it is said. He had been employed at

the Pilcher's for four months, and had previously been a clerk in hotels in Omaha and Perry, Iowa.

Dr. A. R. Timerman, coroner, viewed the body and sent it to Fleeman-McNeill's. The coroner said he did not expect to hold an inquest.

**Date of death: 27 Mar 1905**

**Subject: James M. Dougherty**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 27 Mar 1905, p. 5**

Crushed and cut into fragments, and scattered for half a mile along the rails and ties, the body of James Dougherty, a laborer who was employed in the dry salt department at the Hammond packing plant, was discovered on the Rock Island track in South St. Joseph this morning. No one has been found who saw the accident, which is supposed to have occurred about 5 o'clock a.m. and the body was not found for two hours later, when pieces were picked up at the Illinois avenue crossing.

Evidently the man was struck a few yards north of Illinois avenue, where blood was found on the ties, and from there to Lake Crossing, half a mile south, pieces of clothing, bones and flesh were scattered along the track. Both legs were severed from the body, one falling near the passenger depot and the other being carried 400 yards to the street-car crossing. The body was crushed and whipped across th... until only a part of the shoulders, arm and the head remained together.

Dougherty was last seen about 1 o'clock last night, in a saloon at Illinois and Lake avenues. He was intoxicated and it is believed that he wanted to the railroad tracks, where he lay down, or fell, and went to sleep. He is supposed to have been ... by the Rock Island southbound freight train which passes the South St. Joseph station at 4:51 o'clock a.m.

... fragments of the body were ... at the South St. Joseph ... officer Weber ... Coroner Bansbach ... ordered the ... to M... morgue. ... was ... by John ... view addi... man had ... [*another paragraph illegible*]

Dead Man a Widower. [*But paragraph beneath illegible*]

**Date of death: 17 Oct 1913**

**Subject: David Ordell Dowell**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Oct 1913, p. 6**

David Ordell Dowell, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Dowell, died at 9:30 o'clock last night at the home of the parents, 920 South Eighth street.

**Date of death: 15 Aug 1923**

**Subject: Marvin Dowell**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 16 Aug 1923, p. 6**

Marvin Dowell, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Dowell, died at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the family home, 709 South Fifth street. Burial was this afternoon at Mount Auburn Cemetery.

**Date of death: 5 May 1904**

**Subject: John H. Drew**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 7 May 1904, p. 4**

The funeral of John H. Drew, who died Thursday at 1406 South Sixth street, was held yesterday morning at 10 o'clock from the residence. Interment was in the city cemetery.

**Date of death: 28 Dec 1905**

**Subject: William Drisco\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 29 Dec 1905, p. 10**

William Drisco, a negro street sweeper in the employ of the city street cleaning department, died at 2:15 o'clock Wednesday afternoon at his home, 811 Pendleton street. Drisco was 50 years old and for years has been a familiar figure upon the down town streets.

**Date of death: 17 Dec 1906**

**Subject: Bertha M. Drumm**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 17 Dec 1906, p. 10**

Bertha M. Drumm, aged three years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Drumm, of 1315 N. 13th, died at 1 a.m. this morning. Funeral at Cathedral tomorrow afternoon at 2 p.m. Remains will be taken to Conception, Mo., for interment.

**Date of death: 11 May 1907**

**Subject: Mrs. Dora Dudeck**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 13 May 1907, p. 2**

Dora Dudeck, fifty-two years old, wife of Charles Dudeck, died at 11 o'clock Saturday night at the family home, 901 Douglas street.

**Date of death: 11 Feb 1908**

**Subject: William Dudley (or Dewdney)**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 12 Feb 1908, p. 4**

William J. Dudley, eighty years old, an inmate of the county infirmary, died at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

**Date of death: 08 Jun 1907**

**Subject: Henry Duncan**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 11 Jun 1907, p. 8**

The funeral of Henry Duncan, 42 years old, who died at a St. Joseph hospital at 4:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon was held from Heaton's undertaking parlors yesterday afternoon. Burial was

in the city cemetery. Mr. Duncan was a painter by trade. Death was due to valvular heart disease.

**Date of death: 25 Feb 1910**

**Subject: Rosa Duncan**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 25 Feb 1910, p. 1**

Rosie Duncan, two years old, was fatally burned yesterday afternoon, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Duncan, 218 East Robidoux street.

The little girl had obtained possession of a box of matches while her mother was out of the house about 4:30 o'clock, and set fire to her clothing, while striking them to see them burn. Her flesh was literally cooked and she died at 6:30 o'clock last night.

Mrs. Duncan had gone to a neighbor's to get a pail of water from a well, and when she returned she found the kitchen of her home in flames. An alarm was given and J. M. Jones, who lives next door, entered the kitchen and found the child a mass of flames. He carried her into the yard and smothered the flames by wrapping her in a blanket. Then he reentered the house and dragged out a burning carpet and extinguished the fire. The fire department was not called out.

The little girl was taken back into the house after the fire had been put out, and two physicians were summoned. Poultices were applied to the burns and everything possible was done to save her life, but to no avail. The burns had penetrated the body to the heart. Her face and other parts of her body were badly charred.

Coroner Byrd was called to the Duncan home this morning, and after viewing the body, decided that an inquest would not be necessary. The funeral will be this afternoon. The dead child's father is a driver for a coal company. There are two other children in the family, girls, three and four years old, who were playing in the yard at the time of the accident.

**Date of death: [28] Apr 1903**

**Subject: Gladys Opal Durant**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 30 Apr 1903, p. 3**

The funeral of Gladys Opal Durant, the [13-year]-old daughter of Lafayette Durant, was held yesterday afternoon. The interment was at High Prairie cemetery.