

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

**Date of death: 17 Jun 1902**

**Subject: Martha (Easley) Lewis**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 18 Jun 1902, p. 4**

Mrs. Martha Lewis, eighty-two years old, died at the home of her son, Milton Lewis, 805 Jefferson street, at 6L30 o'clock Tuesday evening. The body will be taken to Union Star at 11 o'clock this morning for burial. Mrs. Lewis was an old resident of St. Joseph. She is survived by four children—Milton Lewis, Mrs. G. M. Brinton, Mrs. Tanner and Mrs. William Brady [sic].

**same**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 20 Jun 1902, p. 4**

Mrs. Martha Lewis, aged eighty-two, who resided in St. Joseph for forty years, died Thursday morning at her home, 805 Jefferson street. The body will be taken to Flagg [sic] Springs for burial.

**Date of death: 13 Nov 1907**

**Subject: Edith Henrietta (Ebersold) Sarver**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 13 Nov 1907, p. 6**

Mrs. George W. Sarvers [sic] died at 11 o'clock today, at the family residence, 2218 South Twenty-second street. The infant son of the dead woman died yesterday evening. The body of the infant was taken to Union Star, Mo., this morning, and was being interred at the time of the mother's death.

**Date of death: 11 Feb 1903**

**Subject: Mrs. Annie Echols\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 12 Feb 1903, p. 6**

Annie Echols, wife of David K. Echols, a colored restaurant keeper on Missouri avenue, died yesterday morning in Kansas City, where she had been for several months. The first word Mr. Echols received of his wife's death was a telegram, which came yesterday afternoon from the chief of police in Kansas City. He left immediately for that city, but no word has yet been received from him. The two children of the family are staying at the home of Mr. Fleece, on Park avenue.

**Date of death: 22 Feb 1907**

**Subject: E. Jules Eckel**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 23 Feb 1907, p. 5**

Savannah, Mo., Feb. 23—E. Jules Eckels [sic] died at his home in Amazonia yesterday. He has been a merchant in Amazonia for several years.

**Date of death: 19 Mar 1884**

**Subject: Betty Edwards and infant child**

**Source: *St. Joseph Herald*, 20 Mar 1884, p. 4**

Bettie Edwards died yesterday under circumstances which necessitated a coroner's inquest. She had been living alone in a little brick shanty on the alley in the Bishop block, where she took in sewing for a living. She had been afflicted for a long time with rheumatism, and was supposed to be a victim of the opium habit. Two weeks ago she was taken serious ill and sent for Dr. Gore, who treated her for congestion of the stomach, but finally realized her true condition and decided that she did not need medicines. On Tuesday a child was born, with no one present but two neighboring women and a young medical student. The child was stillborn, and an undertaker was sent for. In response to his rap at the door a faint voice invited him in. The woman was alone, lying on a low bed, with scanty covering about her. In answer to his inquiries she pointed to a chair where the dead child lay, and he bore it away, and afterward conveyed it to the Potter's field. Two young men sat up with the mother that night, and yesterday the women residing in the neighborhood made frequent calls. About 1 o'clock a colored girl went to the house and found that the unfortunate woman had died without attendants. A short time after the birth of the child Doctors Gore and Hoyt visited the mother, but gave her no treatment, Dr. Hoyt deciding that he could not do so as city physician for the reason that she was properly a county patient, and Dr. Gore declined to proceed further in the case as he had attended her in the first place as an act of charity, and preferred that the county physician should take charge. Dr. France, county physician, states that he was never notified. Coroner Kirschner held an inquest last night, with a jury constituted as follows: J. L. Cline, C. H. Irving, Wm. J. King, J. R. Hill, O. E. Fox and C. F. Leon. Mrs. S. J. Edgar, Mrs. S. M. Mathers and Dr. Gore were the only witnesses examined, and their testimony was substantially as related above. A Herald reporter entered the house with the jury, and a more sickening scene has seldom been witnessed. The house consists of only one room, situated at the rear of a solid row of houses on three sides, with an ally on the east. The surroundings were anything but inviting. An old carpet covered the floor, and it was so filthy that its color could not be distinguished. A broken chair and a pile of rags in one corner completed the furnishings of the apartment. The rest cannot be told in print. The spectators did not remain long in contemplation of the shocking scene. The jury rendered a verdict of death from hemorrhage. The woman was about forty years of age, and is supposed to have come from Kentucky. It is not known whether she has any relatives or not. It is apparent that she died of neglect, but the responsibility does not seem to rest upon any particular individuals.

**Date of death: 16 Dec 1902**

**Subject: David D. Edwards\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 17 Dec 1902, p. 6**

David Edwards, colored, died at his home, No. 1418 North Thirteenth street, at noon yesterday. Edwards was 39 years old, and had been employed by the government as a mail carrier for the past ten years. He had been sick about two years. He is well known. He is survived by a widow and one child. The funeral arrangements have not been made.

**Same**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 18 Dec 1902, p. 8**

The funeral of David Edwards, colored, the mail carrier who died Tuesday, will be held from the A.M.E. church on North Third street at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Interment will be in Oakland cemetery.

**Date of death: 30 Sep 1902**

**Subject: George Edwards\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 01 Oct 1902, p. 6**

George Edwards, a colored laborer, aged twenty-nine years, died at 11 o'clock last night at his home, 712 South Seventh street. The body was taken to Columbia, Mo., for burial.

**Date of death: 5 Feb 1904**

**Subject: James Elliott\***

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

James Elliott, colored, died at 7 o'clock last night at his home, 1603 South Tenth street of tuberculosis. He was nineteen years of age.

**Date of death: 12 Oct 1902**

**Subject: Clark Ellis\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 13 Oct 1902, p. 6**

Clark Ellis, a colored man seventy years of age, died yesterday at his home, 312 North Nineteenth street.

**Date of death: 4 Sep 1909**

**Subject: Alexander Enoch**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 5 Sep 1909, p. 6**

After spending two weeks in St. Joseph's hospital where he was taken by the police following his arrest at the Union depot, Alexander Enoch died yesterday morning. The man was arrested for drunkenness. It later developed that he was subject to epileptic fits and he was transferred to the hospital at the orders of the city physician.

Enoch was never able to tell where his home was or where his relatives lived. He was about 35 years of age and was a large man. The body was taken to H. O. Sidenfaden's morgue and will probably be buried by the city.

**same**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 8 Sep 1909, p. 8**

Unaware of the fact that his brother, Alexander Enoch, was dead and buried, Humane Officer Zimendorff received a letter today from William Enoch who lives in Danville, Ky., in response to a letter which he had sent stating that Alexander was seriously ill at a local hospital, asking how his brother was getting along.

Alexander Enoch died at St. Joseph's hospital Saturday morning, and was buried in the city cemetery, yesterday. A telegram was sent to William Enoch notifying him of his brother's death.

**Date of death: 28 Jul 1904**

**Subject: Thomas H. Ensor**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Aug 1904, p. 8**

Savannah, Mo., July 31.—Thomas Ensor died at his home here July 28, aged 48 years. He leaves a wife, a daughter and son.

**Date of death: 24 Mar 1905**

**Subject: Allen Ephraim & wife\***

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 25 Mar 1905, p. 2**

Suicide and Murder

St. Joseph Negro and His Wife Are the Victims

Allen Ephraim ... Sanguinary ... at Lincoln, Neb. And Both Are Dead. Bodies To Be Brought Here.

*[First and second paragraph mainly illegible]*

... was twenty... of age and his wife was two years younger.

Ephraim's mother received word of the tragedy yesterday afternoon and she arranged with D. E. Heaton for the burial of the bodies which will be brought to St. Joseph.

Last September Ephraim went to Omaha and from there to Lincoln. His wife disappeared about the same time and turned up at Lincoln. They had been separated for a year, on account of domestic trouble.

Yesterday morning Ephraim went to his wife's room and burst in the door. He accused her of infidelity ... woman struggled to free herself from his grasp. Stevenson, who had been with the woman during the night, le... closet, from where, he says, he witnessed the deadly conflict. He heard a shot and both bodies fell to the floor. The man was dead and the woman expired shortly after the arrival of the police. Although Stevenson declares there was but one shot fired, both the victims were wounded in the head. The woman's jugular vein was severed and her husband was stabbed in the heart with a small pen-knife found near the bodies. The pistol was clutched in the hand of the dead man and the theory of the police is that after shooting his wife he turned the gun on himself. It is believed that the woman used the knife in the struggle and after stabbing her husband, severed her jugular vein, making a singular case of double suicide and murder.

It is not yet known when the bodies will reach St. Joseph.

**Same**

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

The bodies of Allen Ephraim and wife, the negroes who met death in a duel at Lincoln, Neb., Friday, arrived here Saturday night and were taken to the home of Ephraim's mother, 507 North Second street. The double funeral will be conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock by the Rev. J. C. Caldwell, and the bodies will be buried in one grave.

**Date of death:** 20 Sep 1910

**Subject:** Elizabeth (Ephraim) Jackson\*

**Source:** *St. Joseph News-Press*, 20 Sep 1910, p. 1

As a result of burns sustained yesterday morning in a gasoline explosion, Mrs. Betty Jackson, a negress, 227 East Poulin street, died at St. Joseph's Hospital at 1:50 o'clock this morning. She is survived by her husband, George Jackson, a laborer, employed by the city, and two sons.

**Date of death:** 15 Nov 1904

**Subject:** David H. Epple

**Source:** *St. Joseph News & Press*, 16 Nov 1904, p. 5

Relatives in St. Joseph of David H. Epple, for many years a resident of St. Joseph, Maryville and Savannah, received word this morning that he had dropped dead of heart disease, at his home in Newton, Kan., at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He was seventy-two years old and had been a resident of Kansas for twenty-six years.

Pioneer residents of Andrew and Nodaway counties will remember Mr. Epple. Prior to the building of the Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs railroad through Andrew and Nodaway counties, he operated a stage line and carried the mail between Savannah, Maryville and Clarinda, Iowa. He embarked in the shoe business at Savannah at the close of the war and at one time was rated as one of Andrew County's wealthiest citizens. His wife and one child survive him.

**Date of death:** 24 Jul 1907

**Subject:** Leona Eshelman

**Source:** *St. Joseph News-Press*, 25 Jul 1907, p. 6

Graham, Mo., July 25.—Miss Leona Eshelman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Eshelman, pioneer settlers of this community, died at her home here yesterday morning. She had long been a sufferer from consumption. She leaves a father, mother, two brothers and one sister, besides a host of friends to mourn her loss. Her brother, Walter Eshelman, is connected with the Olney Music Company in St. Joseph.

**Date of death:** 18 Nov 1904

**Subject:** Sarah (Estep or Easthope) Layton

**Source:** *St. Joseph News & Press*, 22 Nov 1904, p. 7

Savannah, Mo., Nov. 22.-- Mrs. Sarah Layton, an old resident of this city who has but lately moved to Fayetteville, Kan., died last Friday. Her remains were brought to this city, the funeral taking place from the Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Reverend Flower of St. Joseph officiating.

Misses Emma Layton and Ella Layton arrived in the city Saturday to attend the funeral of their mother.

**Date of death: 2 Aug 1909**

**Subject: Stephen Estes\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 4 Aug 1909, p. 1**

Stephen Estes, the only colored man who has lived in Agency township in the last twenty-five years, was buried yesterday. He died Sunday night. The funeral was attended by many persons, for the aged negro was familiar to all who lived in the Agency neighborhood. He was 80 years old.

Stephen was born as a slave of Berry Estes, one of the pioneers of Buchanan county. After the death of Berry Estes, in 1854, Stephen was sold at auction to the highest bidder. One of the bidders was not friendly toward Stephen. The negro went to this bidder and told him that he would not work for him. Notwithstanding this, the man bid the slave in at \$1,800. The late Judge W. R. Smith, the son-in-law of Berry Estes, was the next highest bidder, \$1,750.

After the slave had been knocked down to the man he did not like, he again went to him and told him he would never work for him.

William McVey, a pioneer farmer, then went to Stephen and asked him if he would go with him (McVey) and the negro said he would. McVey secured possession by paying \$1,800 and he took Stephen.

At the outbreak of the civil war, McVey entered the Southern army. Stephen went with him and drove a ...-mule team. At the surrender of ... Shelby, in Texas, McVey and his former master [sic] were still together.

Estes returned to Agency Ford and lived on the farm of Judge Smith until thirty-six years ago. He then moved to Agency and lived there ever since, except during the time he served as cook at the hail, when the late Judge Carey was sheriff.

Stephen shared the confidence and respect of all the people of his town and the community in which he lived. He was looked upon as always honorable and upright in his dealings. He was a member of the Christian church. He was never married.

Dr. J. C. Smith was yesterday made administrator of the estate of the former slave, a house and four lots in Agency. It was Stephen's home place. The property is valued at ... 00. It will probably be sold and the proceeds used to pay the aged man's funeral expenses and to erect a tombstone at his grave.

**Date of death: 1 May 1903**

**Subject: Irma D. Evans**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 2 May 1903, p. 3**

Death of Miss Evans

Irma Da--- ... yesterday at ... miles northeast ... daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. ?. Evans. The funeral will be this afternoon with burial in Fairview cemetery.

**Date of death: 29 May 1903**

**Subject: Neal D. Evans**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Jun 1903, p. 6**

Neal Evans, aged 10 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Evans, of Hopkins, Mo., died at Ensworth hospital Friday night. The funeral will be today and burial at Hopkins.

**Date of death: 2 Feb 1921**

**Subject: Robert Max Evans**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 2 Feb 1921, p. 4**

Robert Max, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Evans, 228 Clayton street, died in a local hospital this morning.