

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

**Date of death: 20 Aug 1907**

**Subject: Ralph Rains**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 21 Aug 1907, p. 8**

Ralph Rains, infant son of Mrs. Hattie ... East ... died... Sheltering Arms... funeral was held yesterday afternoon with interment ... cemetery. [*mostly illegible*]

**same**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 20 Aug 1907, p. 6**

Ralph Rains, infant son of Mrs. And Mrs. H. Rains ... at the Sheltering Arms ... city cemetery. [*mostly illegible*]

**Date of death: 10 Apr 1910**

**Subject: "Buster" Ramirez**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 11 Apr 1910, p. 4**

The seven-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Ramirez died at 4 o'clock yesterday morning at the family home, 1721 1/2 Frederick ave.

**Date of death: 1 Sep 1913**

**Subject: Leora (or Leona) May Randall**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 2 Sep 1913, p. 6**

Leona May, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Randall, died at 11 o'clock last night at the home of the parents, 4904 King Hill avenue.

**Date of death: 21 Oct 1918**

**Subject: Veronica (Ranisjewski) Ciolek**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 21 Oct 1918, p. 6**

Mrs. Veronica Ciolek, thirty-one years old, wife of Andrew Ciolek, a car carpenter in the employ of the Grant Island, died early this morning at her home, 513 South Twenty-third street, of pneumonia. Besides her husband, she is survived by four sons, John, Louis, Edward and Lawrence, all at home.

**Date of death: 30 Sep 1918**

**Subject: Lewis Ray\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 1 Oct 1918, p. 1**

An unidentified man was burned to death in a small outbuilding adjoining the old Missouri Pacific freight house, which was destroyed by fire at ...:10 o'clock this morning. The body was not found until the fire was nearly extinguished by city firemen. The body was taken from the

fire, but life was extinct. Dr. Forrest Thomas, coroner, was notified and the body was removed to the H. O. Sidenfaden chapel.

The fire caught several small buildings adjoining which were filled with coal, and burned them to the ground. The origin of the blaze has not been definitely determined. There was an opinion prevalent that the buildings, which were frame, may have been set fire by a spark from a passing railroad locomotive. The damage probably will exceed \$10,000.

The old freight house is owned by the Union terminal railroad, and was used only temporarily by the Missouri Pacific while their new freight house was being built. For the last six years the John S. Brittain Dry Goods company had used the building for a box factory and warehouse. Several hundred dollars worth of lumber was piled in the building. Coal, which was stored in the adjoining buildings, belonged to the Artesian Ice and Coal Storage company. About fifty tons was burned to cinders.

**Date of death: 12 Jan 1905**

**Subject: Bettie Rea**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 13 Jan 1905, p. 3**

Savannah, Mo., Jan. 12.—Miss Bettie Rea, youngest daughter of Judge Joseph Rea, this city, attempted suicide by taking two ounces of laudanum yesterday evening. Several doctors were with her all night. She died this morning at 10:30.

She was out driving in the afternoon, and apparently in good health, but she has lately been subject to epilepsy.

**Date of death: 27 Sep 1913**

**Subject: Charles C. Redfield**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 27 Sep 1913, p. 2**

An unidentified man was run over and killed by a southbound Burlington freight train at Fifth and Doniphan avenue early this morning. The body, frightfully mutilated, was found by J. W. Thomas, 413 Doniphan avenue, an employe of the Standard Oil Company, at 4:30 o'clock. Thomas was on his way to work when he discovered part of a man's trunk between the tracks. It is supposed that the man was run over by a freight train that arrived at 4 o'clock.

All the Burlington trainmen have been accounted for and it is presumed the dead man was a fair visitor or a tramp. Marks in the center of the track indicated that he had been dragged about 150 yards. It is thought he was riding under a car and caught hold of a brake rod when he fell.

The man's head was torn off about the eyes and his legs were severed just below the hips. Coroner T. J. Lunch viewed the corpse and sent it to Rock & Clark's. It is in such a mangle condition that it cannot be held long. The dead man was about forty-five years old, partly gray, with a sandy mustache. He was about five feet eight inches and weighed about 140 pounds. He had false teeth and wore tan shoes.

**Date of death: 10 May 1906**  
**Subject: Lucy A. Redman**  
**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 10 May 1906, p. 6**

Stanberry, Mo., May 10.—Despondent because of continued ill health Miss Lucie Redmond [sic], twenty years old, and well known here, took "rough on rats" at 7 o'clock this morning. Miss Redmond was the daughter of Mrs. John Redmond, a widow, and lived with her mother in the suburbs. She was an operator in the employe [sic] of the Stanberry Herald. Her rash act has aroused considerable comment and has shocked the community in which she was held in high esteem.

**Date of death: 23 Jun 1916**  
**Subject: Mrs. Mary Redmond**  
**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 23 Jun 1916, p. 6**

Mrs. Mary Redmond, a widow sixty years old, was found dead at her home, 514 Sylvania street, by the police this morning. Neighbors summoned the officers, when it was noticed that the woman had not appeared this morning as usual, and, her doors were locked. A skeleton key was used to gain an entrance. The woman lived alone.

Dr. J. J. Wisser, acting coroner, viewed the body and said that death was due to heart disease. Mrs. Redmond was seen by neighbors yesterday afternoon about the premises. Doctor Wisser said that she had been dead for a number of hours when he reached the house. Her only survivor is a son, John Redmond of Maryville, Mo., who was notified. The body is at Rock's.

**Date of death: 11 Aug 1904**  
**Subject: George Reed**  
**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 13 Aug 1904, p. 2**

The body of George Reid [sic], aged 81, who died Thursday at a local hospital, was sent from the family residence at 901 North Second street, to Amazonia yesterday for burial.

**Date of death: 2 Apr 1906**  
**Subject: John F. Reed**  
**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 3 Apr 1906, p. 12**

Barnard, Mo., April 3.—John Reed, of Barnard, died suddenly at about 4:30 o'clock yesterday evening while coming to town. Mr. Reed received a telephone message while at the home of his nephew, Elmer Reed, to the effect that his niece, Kate Reed, of Richmond, Kan., had died. Mr. Reed attempted to walk in to town, a distance of two miles, in an effort to catch the 5 o'clock train, and it is supposed that the excitement brought on a spell of heart trouble which resulted in his death.

The deceased was sixty-nine years of age and was a well known and respected citizen.

**Date of death: 5 Aug 1902**  
**Subject: Jordan "Buzz" Reed\***

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

Jordan Reed, Negro Bootblack, Goes Swimming for the Last Time.

Jordan Reed, commonly known as Buzz Reed, was drowned in the Missouri river yesterday afternoon near the mouth of Roys' branch, where he was bathing.

Reed, who was twenty-one years old, with his brothers conducted a shoe-shining stand on Edmond street between Fourth and Fifth streets. He lived at 419 North Eighteenth street.

Efforts are being made by relatives to recover the body, which sank in very deep and rapid water.

The accident was witnessed by two boys about thirteen years of age, who attempted to assist the drowning man by throwing him a pole, but without avail.

**Same**

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 7 Aug 1902, p. 6**

The body of "Buzz" Reed, the negro who was drowned in the Missouri River near Roy's Branch Monday, was recovered about 8 o'clock this morning by Will and Frank Barrett, 713 Main street.

Some boys playing on the river bank saw a floating object which appeared to be a human body. The matter was reported to the Barretts, who, going out in a small boat, recovered the body in the center of the stream opposite the end of Jule street.

The body was taken to Heaton's morgue, where an inquest will be held.

**Date of death: Oct 1903**

**Subject: William Delmar Reed**

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 22 Oct 1903, p. 6**

Savannah, Mo.—The remains of Will Reed, the son of Reverend Reed, who was formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church here, will be interred in the Savannah cemetery this afternoon.

**Date of death: 4 Jul 1906**

**Subject: Ray Reese**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 5 Jul 1906, p. 6**

Burlington Junction, Mo., July 5.—While returning from the Fourth of July celebration at this place early last night Ray Reese, the seventeen-year-old son of Lanson Reese, who resides five miles east of Skidmore, was fatally injured in a runaway accident. Young Reese, in company with Claude Stults, was driving behind a spirited horse when one of the holdback straps broke allowing a part of the harness to fall on the heels of the horse which bolted. Reese and Stults jumped from the buggy, Reese alighting on the back of his head. He was alive but unconscious when picked up, and died an hour later. His neck was broken by the fall.

Young Stults was badly cut and bruised but sustained no serious injury. The body of Reese was shipped to his home at Skidmore this morning. His family is among the early settlers of Nodaway County.

**Date of death: Mar 1901**

**Subject: William M. Rhinebalt**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette-Herald*, 26 Mar 1901, p. 4**

William M. Rhinebalt was buried Sunday at the city cemetery. He was seventy-eight years old and lived at 501 North Second street. Death was due to extreme age.

**Date of death: 18 Jan 1910**

**Subject: Viola Richardson**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 18 Jan 1910, p. 4**

Iola [sic], the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Richardson, 1820 South Fourth street, died at 8:30 o'clock this morning at the home of the parents.

**Date of death: 21 Jan 1910**

**Subject: Violet Richardson**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 21 Jan 1910, p. 4**

Violet, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Richardson, 1820 South Fourth street, died at 8:30 o'clock this morning.

**Date of death: 25 Jan 1908**

**Subject: Phillip S. Richey**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 25 Jan 1908, p. 1**

Maryville, Mo., Jan. 25.—Philip [sic] S. Richey, who operated the George Baker farm, east of Maryville, swallowed carbolic acid in a driveway near his barn, at 11 a.m., from the effects of which he died half an hour later. Richey leaves a wife and two sons. No reason why he should take his life can be assigned, except that he has not been in good health for several days.

Richey passed his eldest son, who was chopping wood in the farmyard, a few moments before 11 o'clock. The father and the boy had some little conversation regarding the saddling of a horse which Richey was going to ride to town. There was no disagreement, excepting that the lad thought his father should take a better horse than the one of which he had spoken.

At about 11 o'clock a younger son, about ten years of age, was passing through a driveway of the barnyard, when he found his father lying on the ground. The face and neck was [sic] badly burned with acid, but he was not then dead. The lad told his brother and mother and then ran a quarter of a mile to a neighboring farm, where he summoned a doctor. Richey was dead when the physician arrived.

Richey was not incumbered [sic] by debts, as many renting farmers are, and there was complete happiness in his family. A note, addressed to his wife, was found pinned to the dead man's coat. He merely told her he was going to commit suicide, that he hated to bring disgrace upon her and the boys and commended her as an excellent and loving helpmeet. He urged her to use every effort to raise the boys to the right sort of living.

An inquest will probably be held this afternoon.

**Date of death: 9 Oct 1898**

**Subject: Willie Richmond\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Daily News*, 10 Oct 1898, p. 6**

Willie Richmond, a negro boy eleven years old, who lived with his parents at 216 North Second street, died last night of diphtheria.

**Date of death: 15 Jan 1917**

**Subject: Matthews O. Ricketts\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 16 Jan 1917, p. 6**

Dr. Matthews O. Ricketts, prominent negro physician, died yesterday morning at a hospital here, following a brief illness. Dr. Ricketts was one of the leaders among the negro ... in this ... and won considerable fame in the early nineties when he was elected to the legislature in Nebraska, serving one term. He was ... years old and had lived in St. Joseph for the last ... years, coming here from Omaha and entering at once upon the practice of his profession.

Seven years ago he was grand master of the negro Masonic fraternity of Missouri, He is survived by his wife and a married daughter. The body is now at ...man-Heaton undertaking ... funeral arrangements have not been completed, there being ... expressed that the body be held until Sunday in order to permit of the attendance at the funeral of several grand masters of the negro Masonic order from other states. Dr. Ricketts was quite active in negro politics and was recognized as an able and influential member of his race.

**Date of death: Nov 1906**

**Subject: Mary M. (Rider) Norris**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 20 Nov 1906, p. 5**

Savannah, Mo., Nov. 20.—The body of Grandma Norris was brought here yesterday from Illinois, where she had been making her home with a daughter. Burial took place from the home of her son, E. M. Norris.

**Date of death: 31 Jul 1907**

**Subject: Joseph Ritter**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 31 Jul 1907, p. 6**

Joseph Ritter, eighty-five years old, died at 6 o'clock this morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. ... Schneider, in Avenue City. He was a ... is survived by four sons and three daughters.

**Date of death: 28 Dec 1902**  
**Subject: Joseph Roberts\***  
**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 31 Dec 1902, p. 6**

Joseph Roberts, colored, aged 30 years, died in Kansas City Sunday. The body was shipped to St. Joseph yesterday and was taken to the home of the deceased's brother, William Roberts, No. 815 South Seventh street. The funeral was held from the residence at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon and interment was made in Mt. Mora cemetery.

**Date of death: 13 Aug 1883**  
**Subject: Watt Robinson\***  
**Source: *The Atchison [KS] Daily Champion*, 14 Aug 1883, Tuesday, p. 1**

St. Joseph, Missouri, August 13.-- Watt Robinson, a colored barber of this city, was instantly killed at 2 o'clock this afternoon by falling between the wheels of a passenger train on the K.C., St. Jo. & C.B. R.R. He attempted to board the train while it was in motion, a short distance below the Francis street depot and fell between the cars. He was dragged some distance, the wheels pressing diagonally across his breast, crushing and mutilating him in a horrible manner. His heart was torn out and lay apart from his body. Watt Robinson was 25 years of age and has a wife but no children. His wife is at Pueblo, Colorado, and has been notified of his death. The victim was a brother of Professor Harry Robinson, one of the best known colored men of this city.

**Date of death: 27 Dec 1911**  
**Subject: Mrs. Lydia Rodgers**  
**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 28 Dec 1911, p. 6**

Mrs. Lydia Rodgers, a widow, seventy-three years old, died at 11:10 o'clock last night at the family home, 513 1/2 South Eighth street.

**Date of death: 9 Mar 1905**  
**Subject: Howard Rollins\***  
**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 11 Mar 1905, p. 8**

Howard Rollins, aged 55 years, died March 9 at his residence, 112 West Augusta street. Funeral services will be held at Ebenezer A.M.E. church, cor 3d and Antoine streets, Sunday at 1:30. Friends invited to attend.

**Date of death: 18 Aug 1918**  
**Subject: Joseph Romero**  
**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 19 Aug 1918, p. 5**

Joseph Romero, 22 years old, died yesterday afternoon at a hospital here following a brief illness. The body was removed to 517 Lake avenue, where his funeral [sic] services will be conducted this afternoon. He was born in Mexico and had no relatives here.

**Date of death: Sep 1910**

**Subject: Sallie Roper\***

**Source: *Abilene [KS] Daily Reflector*, 8 Sep 1910, Thursday, p. 1**

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 8-- An autopsy on the body of Sallie Roper, a negro woman who died at a local hospital of kidney disease, revealed a remarkable collection of junk in her stomach some of which had been there for years. The collection weighed five pounds and included 125 nails of assorted sizes, three iron nuts, two iron bolts, 50 safety pins, 150 hairpins, 47 buttons, 40 pebbles, 30 common pins, 40 carpet tacks, ten prune stones, one motor car tag.

**Date of death: 26 Apr 1919**

**Subject: Hilario Rosas**

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 27 Apr 1919, p. 1**

A Mexican laborer, supposedly named Hilario Rosas, was shot five times at about 9:30 o'clock last night on the railroad tracks near the Larabee mills, and died an hour later in Noyes hospital where he had been removed by the police. One of the bullets, evidently from a revolver, passed through his head and the others through various parts of his body.

The body was found lying squarely on the track by a Missouri Pacific train crew. Members of the crew picked up the man who was nearly dead at the time, and removed him to the office of the St. Joseph Terminal company. The South Side police station was then called and notified of the discovery. Upon the arrival of the police the man was taken to Noyes hospital where he died a half hour later. The man never regained consciousness. His identity is thought to have been established by a paper found in his pocket.

According to the police Rosas was seen late yesterday afternoon in the vicinity of the Larabee mills. Robbery might have been the motive that led his assailant to take the man's life for the victim was found stripped of his valuables. Yet it is hardly likely that his assailant would have been pressed to the point of firing five shots into the Mexican, the police say. No clue was found by detectives who examined the place last night. The body was removed to H. O. Sidenfaden's parlors last night. The address of the Mexican was not learned.

**Date of death: 10 Mar 1904**

**Subject: Mrs. Rebecca Ross\***

**Source: *St. Joseph Gazette*, 12 Mar 1904, p. 2**

Rebecca Ross, negro, 75 years old, died Thursday at the family home, Sixteenth and Sylvania streets. The funeral will be from the Francis street Baptist church at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Interment will be in Oakland cemetery.

**Date of death: 19 Jan 1913**

**Subject: Thomas Roy\***

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 20 Jan 1913, p. 4**



Thomas Roy, a negro seventy years old, for a long time employed by James A. Gibson, public administrator, died of paralysis yesterday afternoon at a local hospital. "Tom Mose," as the old man was called, was stricken last Friday. He was born a slave and had lived in St. Joseph sixty years.

**Date of death: 8 Mar 1908**

**Subject: Andrew Alburn Rucker**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 9 Mar 1908, p. 6**

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Rucker died at the home ... miles northeast of the city early this morning.

**Date of death: 1 Feb 1914**

**Subject: Charles Ruehl (or Reuhl)**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 2 Feb 1914, p. 3**

Charles Reuhl, forty-seven years old, who lived at 519 1/2 Messanie street, died at 7:30 o'clock yesterday morning at a local hospital. He has no relatives in St. Joseph but it is thought that he has a sister in Dayton, Ohio. The body will be held at the Rock-Clark morgue until the sister has been located.

**Date of death: 18 Jul 1909**

**Subject: Fay Rusk**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 19 Jul 1909, p. 5**

Maryville, Mo., July 19.—Fay Rusk, seventeen years of age, whose parents reside at Hopkins, was drowned while bathing yesterday afternoon in the Nodaway River, near Braddyville, Mo. [sic] The body was recovered.

**Date of death: 6 Nov 1918**

**Subject: John Ryder**

**Source: *St. Joseph News-Press*, 6 Nov 1918, p. 6**

John Ryder, fifty-three years old, died at 10 o'clock today in a local hospital. He had no known relatives.