

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

27518

1 PLACE OF DEATH  
County Howell  
Township Howell  
or  
Village  
or  
City

Registration District No. 384  
Primary Registration District No. 5535

File No.  
Registered No. 50

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

2 FULL NAME Mary Ellen Van Black

**PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS**

3 SEX Female 4 COLOR OR RACE White 5 MARRIED Married  
(Write the word)

6 DATE OF BIRTH Oct 2nd 1885  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

7 AGE 59 yrs. 8 mos. 20 ds.  
If LESS than 1 day... hrs. or... min.?

8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work Housewife 1898  
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) None

9 BIRTHPLACE (City or town, State or foreign country) Rock Island Co Illinois

PARENTS  
10 NAME OF FATHER Thos. Meers  
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (City or town, State or foreign country) Moss  
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Mary Golden  
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (City or town, State or foreign country) Kentucky

14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE  
(Informant) E. Van Black  
(Address) West Plains

15 Filed 9-15 1915 00A Heinrich Registrar

**20 MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH**

16 DATE OF DEATH June 22nd 1915  
(Month) (Day) (Year)

17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from May 16 1915, to June 22 1915, that I last saw her alive on June 20 1915 and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at 9:15 P.M.

The CAUSE OF DEATH\* was as follows:  
Chronic Gastritis

(Duration) 3 yrs. XX mos. XX ds.

CONTRIBUTORY Ovarian Cyst - large  
(Secondary)

(Duration) 3 yrs. XX mos. XX ds.

(Signed) A. H. Hawley M. D.  
June 23 1915 (Address) West Plains, Mo.

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

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

19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL West Plains DATE OF BURIAL June 23 1915

20 UNDERTAKER McFarland Mfg Co ADDRESS West Plains

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*, *Composer*, *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*, *peritoneum*, 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.)