

## Finding Death, Burial, and Cemetery Records

Taught by Julie V Wilcox

[jvwmomof9@gmail.com](mailto:jvwmomof9@gmail.com)

You can find death and burial information from a variety of sources.

Start with government records, such as death indexes, death certificates, and probate records.

Check city, county, and state archives.

Church records may provide information not available in other types of records.

Newspapers may have an obituary or death notice, or a follow-up story about the funeral service.

Additional government records also contain death information – check military, land and property, social security death index, and court records.

Cemeteries, sexton records, funeral homes, and hospitals can also provide helpful information.



First, determine what records might be available for the area you are researching. Use the Research WIKI to learn about available records.

1. Death certificates – find out what years are available. Be sure to look at the image of death certificate if possible. You may find valuable information! Each death certificate tells a story of its own.
2. Death Indexes and registers – including social security records
3. Findagrave.com, Billion Graves, Death indexes.com, and more
4. Cemeteries – Sexton Records, Mortuary records
5. Newspapers – obituaries, death notices, funeral reports, etc.
6. Church Records – (LDS Church records are on microfilm at the Church History Library – some are available at BYU, etc.) – Parish records
7. Wills and Probate Records
8. Family Bible Records – search online collections and ancestor descendants.
9. Military Records – Family Search, Ancestry and Fold3.com, and more...
10. Books and Historical Societies
11. Additional misc. collections – ex: United States Deceased Physician File
12. Use the Card Catalogs on web sites and Learning Centers to find more records and information about Cemeteries, tombstones, etc.
13. Check Cyndislist.com for more links