

## Searching for obituaries at the Colonie Library

### Finding a date of death

**Obitsarchive.com:** Search for recent obituaries that appeared in newspapers in the United States. The free result includes the date that the obituary appeared in print and the title of the newspaper that the obituary appeared in. For \$2.95 you can access the obituary. This database is helpful in approximating the date of death and in locating a newspaper title for accessing the obituary.

**Social Security Death Index** (for deaths occurring after 1962) Colonie Library holds the CD-ROM Index and patrons can access the database online. SSDI is helpful in pinpointing date of death. SSDI on the rootsweb website includes basic and advanced search capabilities. (<http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi>)

**Ancestry** database (birth records, death records, marriage records) includes many searchable death indexes and records. Ancestry Library Edition can be accessed on the public Internet computers at the William K. Sanford Town Library.

**City Directory:** Colonie Library holds City Directories of the United States for Albany, Colonie, and Schenectady in print and on microfilm.

- Microfilm: 1861-1867, 1868-1873, 1874-1877, 1878-1881, 1882-1885, 1886-1888, 1889-1891, 1892-1894, 1895-1896, 1897-1899, 1927-1928, 1929-1930, 1931-1932, 1933-1935, 1941-1942
- Print: Local City Directories: 1943, 1945, 1947, - present.

City directories include names and addresses of local residents. Directory searches can assist patrons in establishing an approximate year of death for a resident – whose name appears in a directory for a number of years and then disappears. Sometimes the name of a surviving spouse appears in the listing.

For deaths in other communities and states, contact a library that serves the community where the death occurred or where the person lived. The library may have a death index or be willing to do an obituary search in a local newspaper for a fee.

**Search for public libraries** (<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/librarysearch/>)

### Obituary indexes at the Colonie Library

- Index to the Albany Times-Union (1982,1983,1984-2006) R011.34IND
- New York Times Obituaries Index (1858-1968, 1969-1978) R920NEW
- Obituaries from the Times (London Times 1951-1960) R920TIM
- Obituaries from the Times, 1961-1970 :including an index to all obituaries and tributes appearing in the Times during the years 1961-1970 / (London Times) R920TIM

- Obituaries from the Times, 1971-1975: including an index to all obituaries and tributes appearing in the Times during the years 1971-1975 (London Times)  
R920TIM

### **Times-Union, Albany New York**

The Colonie Library holds the microfilm for the Times-Union (1976-present). In addition, the library holdings include the Index to the Times-Union (1982-1984 and 1986-2006. Obituaries are indexed.

Photocopies of microfilm are available for 10 cents per page.

The main branch of the Albany Public Library holds microfilm for the Times-Union 1891-.

Patrons can search the Times Union Archives online (1993-)

<http://www.timesunion.com/archives>