



Francis “Frank” Sterk

ID Number: T06923

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Basic Identification

Gender: male
Ethnicity: European American
Immigration: German
Attributed Race: white
Free or Enslaved: free

Birth & Family

Birth Date: 1827/09/00
Birthplace: Württemberg,
Germany
Mother: Frances Sterk
Father: Francis “Frank” Sterk
(Sr.)
1st Spouse: Sophia Bowman
Sterk
2nd Spouse: male

Age Details

Age: 56
Age Group: adult (20-59)

Life Details

Occupation(s): master machinist
for Norfolk and Western Railroad
Last Church:
Military Service:
Last Residence: Lynchburg,
Virginia
Last Address: 400 block Main
Street

Death

Death Date: 1884/04/15
Death Note: none
Place of Death:
Cause of Death: arsenic
poisoning

Burial & Undertaking

Burial Date: 1884/04/00
Funeral Home: Diuguid
Diuguid ID Number:
Indigent?:

Gravesite and Grave Marker Data

Grave Marker or Marker Fragment: none
Section:
Confirmation Source for Location:
Grave Marker Erector(s):
Confirmation Source for Interment: Reminiscences article (1896)

Others In Same Plot (T0399)

FULL NAME	BIRTH DATE	DEATH DATE
Frances Sterk	1786//	1863/10/
Child of Frank and Sophia Sterk	//	1860/05/

Obituary and Biographical Detials

Married 1857

1870 census: living in Lynchburg

1875-76 LCD: master machinist for AM&O Railroad, res. 500 block of Main Street

1880 census: cannot find!

1881 LCD: master machinist for N&W Railroad, res. 400 block of Main Street

From "Reminiscences" (1896):

Near the drive, pretty well down on the second walk there from, on a stout wooden cross about seven feet high, there is inscribed on the cross-piece in large letters "F.Sterk, 1884." Our attention was attracted to it by its originality and when we looked at it, we were reminded of the unique character of the man whose grave it marked. Mr. Sterk was for many years master machinist of the shops then kept here by the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and was regarded as equal to any demand on his services in that line. His temperament was what rendered him peculiar. He would appear rough and disobliging on occasion, yet beneath such an unpropitious exterior dwelt a warm heart and a disposition to help his men at the expense of his own ease. In his personal intercourse with his fellow citizens (which amounted to but little) he was about as laconic as the late James Fretwell, on meeting an acquaintance, viz: "Mornin" and passed on.