

# Looking for Living: Records and Tips for Finding the Living

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## Records for Locating the Living

We use many of the same records looking for the living as we do our dead relative. However, there are different ways to access them and limitations on how we use them.

- Census Records – These may be found at *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch.org* and a few other websites.
- Vital Records – Yes there are restrictions on who can view these, but there are ways around these restrictions.
  - Online Searchable Death Indexes & Records [www.deathindexes.com](http://www.deathindexes.com)
  - Online Birth & Marriage Records Indexes for the USA [www.germanroots.com/vitalrecords.html](http://www.germanroots.com/vitalrecords.html)
- Public Databases
  - U. S. Public Records Index Vol. 1 and 2 – Ancestry.com
  - United States Public Records 1970-2009 – FamilySearch.org
  - [www.Intelius.com](http://www.Intelius.com)
  - [www.BeenVerified.com](http://www.BeenVerified.com)
  - [www.Veromi.net](http://www.Veromi.net)
  - [www.411.com](http://www.411.com)
  - [www.whitepages.com](http://www.whitepages.com)

**Steve Morse** – [www.stevemorse.org/birthday/privateeye.html](http://www.stevemorse.org/birthday/privateeye.html)

**Social Security Death Index/Social Security Applications and Claims Index** – Ancestry.com

- Decoding the Social Security numbers – [www.stevemorse.org/ssn/ssn.html](http://www.stevemorse.org/ssn/ssn.html)
- Obtaining the SS-5 - <https://www.ssa.gov/foia/request.html>

### **Obituaries**

- Obituary Daily Times index 1995-Current – Ancestry.com
- [www.Legacy.com](http://www.Legacy.com)
- [www.Newspapers.com](http://www.Newspapers.com)
- [www.Newsbank.com](http://www.Newsbank.com)
- [www.obitsforlife.com](http://www.obitsforlife.com)
- [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)
- [www.obitsforlife.com](http://www.obitsforlife.com)

### **Cemeteries**

- [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)
- [www.billiongraves.com](http://www.billiongraves.com)
- [www.interment.net](http://www.interment.net)
- Does the local cemetery have a website or listing of burials?

### **Funeral Homes**

The funeral home may be the only place an obituary is posted. Smaller funeral homes may be more likely to release information to you or more willing to pass on information to the family.

### **Social Media**

Facebook

- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Classmates
- Reunions.com/MyLife

**Probate Records** – You may find that the office who records probate, may have an online database to their records. Many are indexed not only with the name of deceased but also by interested parties.

**Land and Tax Records** – Current land transactions and tax records are often available in a searchable database.

### **Voter Registration**

- [www.voterrecord.com](http://www.voterrecord.com)

**Divorce Records** – The older the record the better, the petition for divorce should give you date and place of marriage as well as number of children and possibly their names and ages. Final Decrees will be must les informative.

### **Incarceration Records**

- Most states have an online database of inmates
  - Free Inmate Locator – <http://inmates.com>
- Federal Bureau of Prison
  - [www.bop.gov/inmateloc](http://www.bop.gov/inmateloc)

### **Hire a Professional**

- Association of Professional Genealogist – [www.apgen.org](http://www.apgen.org)
- Board of Certification for Genealogist – [www.bcgcertification.org](http://www.bcgcertification.org)
- ICAPGen – [www.icapgen.org/icapgen/aglist](http://www.icapgen.org/icapgen/aglist)

