



Quincy{Off the Record}  
*the famous & infamous 13*



bizarre  
brow-raising  
spooky  
spine-tingling

*astounding & amazing*

*self-guided driving tour*

of places associated  
with some of the Quincy area's  
intriguing former residents



**SEEQ**  
seequincy.com

# KEY to People and

# Locations to see



- MARY ASTOR** 1 2435 N 12th  
Hollywood film star in *The Maltese Falcon*
- JENNIE HODGERS / ALBERT CASHIER** 2 1707 N 12th  
Cashier's secret identity as a woman
- MONCKTON MANSION** 3 1419 Locust  
Mob activity & Queen Victoria-commissioned chandelier
- JOHN MAHONEY** 4 1627 College  
*Frasier* star, the beloved Marty Crane
- JAMES B STEWART / MICHAEL SWANGO** 5/6 220 N 18th  
Prize-winning author / "Dr. Death" serial killer
- JAMES EARL RAY** 7 415 Hampshire  
Convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- JOHN ANDERSON** 8 510 Maine  
Brilliant character actor in over 500 T.V. roles
- DICK BROTHERS BREWERY** 9 9th & York  
"Sudsy" the ghost & underground tunnels
- ROY BROCKSMITH** 10 1020 S 5th  
From bar singing at age 3 to *Arachnophobia*
- WOODLAND CEMETERY / JOHN WOOD** 11 1020 S 5th  
60,000 rest here, including Wood's father's "head"
- JONATHAN BROWNING** 12 350 N Main  
World famous firearms inventor & polygamist  
Nauvoo
- ROBERT EARL HUGHES** 13 400 E Jefferson  
World's heaviest man at 1,041 pounds  
Pittsfield

kochs ln

us hwy 24

il veterans home

1

2

3

locust st

quincy  
univ

4

college ave

18th st

12th st

8th st

6th st

5th st

4th st

3rd st

front st

mississippi river

us 24 to MO

broadway st

vermont st

hampshire st

maine st

5/6

washington park

7

8

york st

9

state st

east end  
historic district

**VISITOR CENTER** villa kathrine

jefferson st

harrison st

woodland cemetery

south park

gardner expy

57

12

NAUVOO

96



QUINCY

I-72

PITTSFLD

13

QUINCY

RIGHT ON Q

1

**Mary Astor**

1906–1987



An only child, **Mary Astor** was born Lucile Langanke on May 3, 1906 in Quincy, to German immigrant father, Otto Langanke, and mother from Illinois, Helen Vasconcellos. Both were teachers and ambitious for Mary to become famous. Through beauty contest exposure, at 14 she was signed by Hollywood moguls and after several minor parts, Mary starred in John Barrymore's *Beau Brummel* (1924), during which time she had a lively affair with Barrymore.

In 1925, Mary's parents bought a Hollywood mansion and not only lived lavishly off Mary's earnings, but kept her sequestered there. Her father allocated \$5/week allowance to her (at a time when Mary was making \$2,500/week). At 19, Mary climbed from her second floor bedroom window and escaped to a hotel, as recounted in her memoirs. She returned home when her father formed a \$500 savings account for her. Nevertheless, she did not gain control of her salary until she was 26 years old, at which point her parents sued her for financial support. Astor settled the case by agreeing to pay her parents \$100/month.

Red Dust 1932:  
with Clark Gable



Mary's crowning role was her indelible performance as the lying Brigid O'Shaughnessy in *The Maltese Falcon* (1941).

Three divorces, alcoholism, and attempted suicide resulted in smaller parts till her last film *Hush...Hush, Sweet Charlotte* (1964), in which she played opposite her good friend, Bette Davis.

**TODAY: DRIVE-BY**

2435 N 12th  
Quincy

**Mary's Girlhood  
Home**

Park in Islamic Ctr lot to  
view home  
(private residence)



## Albert D.J. Cashier/ Jennie Irene Hodgers

1843-1915



**Jennie Irene Hodgers** was an Irish-born immigrant who made her way to Illinois in 1862. There are varying accounts of her traverse to America.

On August 3, 1862, dressed in men's clothing, Jennie walked into the recruiting office to volunteer for service in the U.S. Civil War. She walked out of the office as **Albert Cashier**. The physical exam inducting men into the Army consisted of nothing more than a tap or two to the chest, with a quick look in the eyes and ears. No undressing, not even stripping to the waist. She was assigned to the 95th IL infantry regiment. From that day forward, Jennie Hodgers was no more.

Albert fought in nearly 40 battles, including the siege at Vicksburg. Other soldiers thought him small, preferring to be alone. Albert was once captured in battle, but escaped back to Union lines after over-powering a prison guard.

After the war, Albert returned to Illinois where he settled in Saunemin. He worked there for forty years as a farmhand, church janitor, cemetery worker and street lamplighter. Because he lived as a man, he was able to vote, use tobacco publicly, and later claimed a veteran's pension.

In 1910, Albert worked for Senator I.M. Lish doing odd jobs and was accidentally hit by the senator's car. While tending to Albert's broken leg a physician discovered his secret, but did not disclose the information.

In 1911, Albert was moved to the Soldier and Sailors Home (now the IL Veterans Home) in Quincy. He lived there as a man until his mind deteriorated and authorities committed him to Watertown State Hospital for the Insane in 1913. Attendants there discovered that he was female-bodied when giving him a bath, at which point he was forced to wear a dress. Albert would pin his dress between his legs in order to make "pants".

In October 1915, the little soldier died at the State Hospital. Dressed in the uniform he was so proud of, he was laid to rest in Sunnyslope Cemetery in Saunemin, IL with full military honors.

His tombstone was inscribed "Albert D.J. Cashier, Co. G, 95 Ill. Inf.". It took the executor of his estate nine years to track his identity back to his birth name of Jennie Hodgers. None of the would-be heirs proved convincing, and his estate of \$418.46 was deposited in the Adams County, IL treasury. In the 1970s, a second tombstone, inscribed with both of his names, was placed beside the first. Albert's house has been restored in his home town of Saunemin.

Over 400 documented cases of women disguising as men and fighting as soldiers in the Civil War exist. The case of Jennie Hodgers is one of the most famous, owing to her continued life as a man thereafter.



## TODAY

1707 N 12th | Quincy  
**Illinois Veteran's Home**

Cashier's biography, ***Also Known As Albert D.J. Cashier: The Jennie Hodgers Story***,

written by veteran Lon P. Dawson, who also lived at the IL Veterans Home, is available at the All Wars Museum on the grounds of the Veteran's Home.



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## Monckton Mansion

1865



It's reported that Al Capone stayed with the Moncktons.

Mob activity, ghosts, basement vaults and elaborate underground tunnels are some of the rumored characteristics of this massive mansion which contribute to its status as a local legend.

Built in 1865 by Charles Savage, the manager of the Quincy-Toledo Railroad, the mansion still sits on over 4 acres today. The property was acquired by Leo and Mildred Monckton in the 1930s and was their home for the next 45 years—years of heavy involvement with Prohibition, illegal gambling and the mafia.

With the Monckton family's reported ties to the Chicago Mob, it's believed that at times gangsters would use the home as a safe house when their criminal pursuits were being investigated in the windy city. Other popular myths included tunnels underneath the home large enough to drive a car through, perhaps all the way to the river.

Quincy has Leo Monckton to thank for the building of the Art Deco-styled State Theater, which opened Christmas Day, 1938. The State Theater now serves as a special event venue, The State Room, at 434 S 8th Street.





Commissioned by  
Queen Victoria and  
displayed at the  
World's Fair in St.  
Louis, the Venetian  
chandelier was  
purchased by Leo  
Monckton and remains  
intact today.

## TODAY

1419 Locust | Quincy  
The current home owners  
are refurbishing the  
mansion, and own  
and operate Royalty  
Electric in Quincy.

(private residence)



4

## John Mahoney

1940–present

**John Mahoney** is an award-winning American actor, best known for playing Martin “Marty” Crane in the American TV series *Frasier* on NBC.

Mahoney, the seventh of eight children, was born in Lancashire, England—the town to which his mother was evacuated as the Mahoney’s Manchester home city was heavily bombed during World War II.

Visiting the States to see his older sister Vera, a “war bride” who had married an American, the young Mahoney decided to emigrate and was sponsored by Vera. He eventually won his citizenship in 1959 by serving in the U.S. Army.

After his military service, Mahoney attended Quincy College (now Quincy University), earning his Bachelor of Arts. He worked as an English professor at an assortment of colleges, and while employed as a medical journalist at 37 years old, made the decision to transition to acting.

Mahoney played the beloved Marty Crane in *Frasier* from 1993-2004, landing him in a comfortable financial position and freeing him to return to the theater, which he considered his home.



John Mahoney with Ted Danson and co-star David Hyde Pierce on the set of *Frasier*



With Betty White, guest starring in *Hot in Cleveland*



With Richard Dreyfuss, in *Tin Men*, 1987

## TODAY

1627 College | Quincy

**Underbrink's Bakery, LLC**

(Across from Quincy University, famous for melt-in-your mouth iced angel food cupcakes, nut rolls and radio rolls.)

217.222.1831 | [underbrinks.com](http://underbrinks.com)

Tues-Fri 7am-2:30pm | Sat 7am-noon



5

**James B. Stewart**

1952–present



6

**Michael Swango**

1954–present



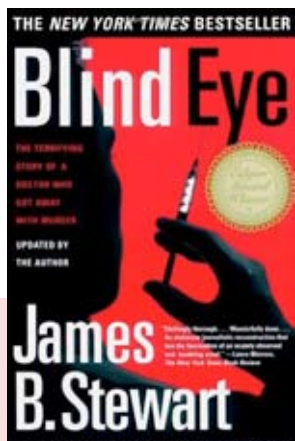
**James Stewart** is an American lawyer, journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. He grew up in Quincy and received his degree from Harvard. In 1999, Stewart penned the unsettling story of **Michael Swango**, known as the “**Doctor of Death**”.

Ironically, Swango, just 2 years younger than Stewart, was also raised in Quincy, and graduated valedictorian from the 1972 Class of Quincy Catholic Boys High School. He graduated Quincy College magna cum laude, and later attended Southern IL University School of Medicine, going on to an internship at Ohio State University Medical Center. Nurses began noticing healthy patients later became strangely ill, but were met with accusations of paranoia.

In 1984, Swango returned to Quincy and joined Blessing Hospital’s emergency medical technician team. Soon many of the paramedics began suffering attacks of violent nausea, invariably following a gift of snacks or beverages from Swango, prompting an unofficial surveillance of Swango.

A search of Swango's Quincy home revealed stockpiles of acid, chemicals, and poisons, in addition to handwritten poison "recipes" and numerous items of occult paraphernalia. Swango was arrested by the Quincy Police Department. In 1985, he was convicted of aggravated battery for poisoning co-workers and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment.

In 1991, Swango legally changed his name to Daniel J. Adams and restarted his career, falsifying and forging documents. He proceeded to rampage the medical community in numerous US facilities, as well as Zimbabwe. His methods of murder poisons, and prescription drug overdoses. Swango is currently serving a life sentence at USP Florence AD-MAX in Florence, CO. Described as a 21st century Alcatraz.



In his book *The Blind Eye*, Stewart estimated that counting the suspicious deaths at SIU, circumstantial evidence links Swango to 35 deaths. The FBI believes he may be responsible for as many as 60 deaths, which would make him the most prolific serial killer in American history. The case was featured on the American crime show *Unsolved Mysteries* .....

### TODAY : DRIVE-BY

220 N 18th | Quincy  
**Swango's Residence**

Location where Quincy  
Police Dept arrested Swango

(private residence today)



James B. Stewart's books may  
be purchased on Amazon.com





## James Earl Ray

1928–1998

The Quincy area figured prominently in the life of **James Earl Ray**—confessed (later recanted) and convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. King was killed in 1968 in Memphis, TN. Ray was arrested on June 8, 1968, in London for the killing, and in March 1969 he pled guilty and was convicted. He spent most of his remaining life professing his innocence and promoting conspiracy theories from a Nashville prison.

Ray was born in Alton, IL and his family moved to Quincy in 1935 briefly, returning in 1946. The Quincy that Ray knew was riddled with gambling, prostitution and bootlegging. Several brothels and bars lined 1st-4th Streets. The extended Ray family lived in the two-block area of 3rd & 4th on Vermont. Ray's father was a bootlegger and career criminal himself, moving the family and changing their name frequently to avoid capture.

Uncle Earl Ray had a long history of robbery and assault, permitting James to accompany him on his Quincy nightlife excursions, introducing "Jimmy" to Big Marie's brothel at 3rd & Vermont, where he began running errands for the working girls. One night at age 14 James stole a patron's trousers at Big Marie's, which ended his job but launched his criminal life.

Ray joined the U.S. Army in 1946 but was discharged in 1948 for disciplinary reasons. Over the next 20 years, his criminal activity was rampant with ensuing incarcerations.





The Twilight Zone:  
“Odyssey of Flight 33”

John Anderson was born in Clayton, IL and grew up in Quincy and Adams County. He received his masters in drama from the University of Iowa, then served in the US Coast Guard during World War II.

His acting career began on the Mississippi River showboat Goldenrod and evolved into Broadway theatre in New York. Eventually he headed West to Hollywood where he became a brilliant character actor.

Standing 6'5" 1/2 tall, he bore a strong resemblance to Abraham Lincoln, whom he portrayed three times. He was in a plethora of films & television shows, with his earlier work including appearances in many Westerns: *Gunsmoke* (12 times), *The Rifleman* (11 times), *The Virginian* (5 times). Anderson also was a recurring actor in *The Twilight Zone* and played the snooping used-car salesman, “California Charlie” in Alfred Hitchcock’s *Psycho*. His list of television roles is so extensive, encompassing over 500.





*Psycho 1960:  
with Janet Leigh*



*M\*A\*S\*H:  
Season 11, 1983*

**Some of Anderson's more  
well known television roles:**

- Hawaii Fivo-O*
- MASH*
- Dallas*
- Emergency*
- Barnaby Jones*
- The Bob Newhart Show*
- Kung Fu*
- Matlock*
- McGyver*
- The Incredible Hulk*
- Little House on the Prairie*

## **TODAY**

510 Maine St | Quincy  
(WCU building lobby)  
**John's mother operated a  
small newsstand  
& cigar store here**

(As a child, the Anderson family  
lived at 613 1/3 Maine St)





## Dick Brothers Brewery Folklore



The Dick Brothers Brewery was opened in 1857 by three brothers: John, Jacob and Matthew. Upon their arrival in Quincy, they discovered a clear, cold, bubbling spring on the property of William Shanahan and began building their empire.

In 1862, a controversy and dissension broke out between three men at the Dick Bro's Brewery with the arrival of an illegitimate son to a neighborhood resident, Ms. Kristi Schmidt. The blonde mistress birthed a son, whose father is disputed to be either one of the two founding brothers, John or Jacob, or brewery worker Mr. Brauer. Mr. Brauer had the odd first name of Jingleheimer.

Knowing the social implications of having a child out of wedlock, they all agreed to let the child be raised by Ms. Schmidt alone with the aid of the brewery family and German community.

Ms. Schmidt's boy went unnamed and unclaimed for several years, growing up simply as "Buddy" Schmidt. In an attempt to right her unmarried status and legitimize her son, Ms. Schmidt would often use the first name of whichever disputed father figure was within earshot to call her son. When John was near, she would say "John Schmidt, it's time to come in now!"; when Jacob was close by, "Jacob Schmidt, it's time to come in now!".

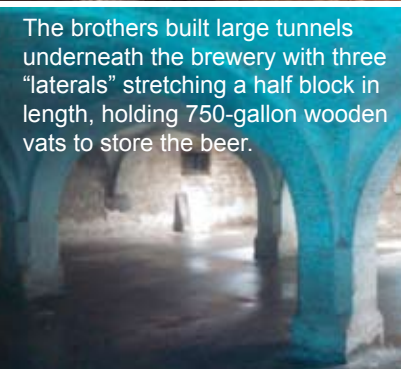
Brother Matthew Dick lived next door to Ms. Schmidt, and had a son who was tight with "Buddy". The boys were mischievous and often fellow conspirators in neighborhood shenanigans. The community called them by the same name....and whenever they would go out, the people would always shout, "John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt.....".

As legend has it, one of the Dick family members died in a vat of beer, and his ghost haunts the halls of the former brewery. Over the years the name "Sudsy" was given to him.

"Sudsy's" remains rest in a crypt in the Woodland Cemetery Mausoleum.  
1020 S 5th  
Quincy



The brothers built large tunnels underneath the brewery with three "laterals" stretching a half block in length, holding 750-gallon wooden vats to store the beer.



Today, Quincy Brewery & Arts (**QuBA**), a non-profit organization is within the Dick Bro's Brewery complex, with a mission to cultivate a sustainable arts district that provides a hub for arts education & makers. [quba.org](http://quba.org)

**Current events:**

Rotary Oktoberfest (2nd Sat | Oct)  
Pickers Markets (Spring | Fall)

**TODAY**

905 York | Quincy

**Gallery Solaro**

**314.315.2696**

**[gallerysolaro.com](http://gallerysolaro.com)**

(a contemporary fine arts gallery  
on the first floor  
of the Brew-House building)



10

**Roy Brocksmith**

1945–2001



Born in Quincy to Vera and Otis Brocksmith, Roy began his career on the bar at Hap Kuhl's Tavern in Quincy at the age of three. As a boy soprano, he appeared regularly on local radio and television shows.

At 18, Roy married his high school sweetheart Adele and graduated from Quincy College (now Quincy University) in 1970 before proceeding to Broadway. At age 40 he flew to L.A. and never looked back. Among his more prominent roles are mortician Irv Kendall in **Arachnophobia** and the duplicitous Dr. Edgemar in **Total Recall**, in which his character is executed by Doug Quaid, played by none other than Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Roy died of kidney failure from diabetes in Burbank, CA at the age of 56. He is buried in Quincy's Woodland Cemetery in the Memorial Bench Plot.

*Total Recall*  
(1990)  
as Dr. Edgemar



*Star Trek: The  
Next Generation*

**TV:**

*Seinfeld*  
*The Golden Girls*  
*Ally McBeal*  
*Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*  
*LA Law* (1986-1991)  
*Picket Fences*, for which he  
won an Emmy nomination

**Film:**

*Psycho* (1998)  
*Who's That Girl*  
*Scrooged*  
*The War of the Roses*  
*Tango & Cash*

**TODAY**

1020 S 5th | Quincy  
**Woodland Cemetery**

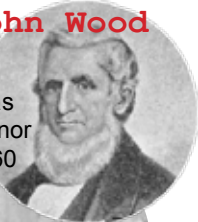
(Roy's grave is in Block 8,  
adjacent to the Honoring  
Soldiers Monument)





1846 | 1798-1880

John Wood was  
the 12th Governor  
of Illinois in 1860



Woodland Cemetery is the proud setting of ancient hardwoods and panoramic Mississippi River views, named after the city's founder, John Wood. Within its rolling acres also lie stories and mysteries of past lives.

In 1846 while Wood was mayor of the city, he sought a place his community could memorialize its dead. He bought this plot of land and planned the cemetery's landscape himself, following the principles of the rural cemetery movement. The movement, which came to America initially in Boston, promoted burial grounds which also served as parks and leisure spots for the living. The design incorporates Quincy's natural topography and is the only remaining part of the city with its original hilly landscape.

Wood planted a white Oak tree at the center of the cemetery—the site he chose for his final resting place. Several members of his family are buried within 15 feet of the tree, including Wood's father Daniel, whose body was brought in 1860 from its NY grave to Quincy. Some family members believe that Wood had only his father's head moved—in a hatbox, to be buried in Woodland.

Wood installed himself as cemetery caretaker for the next 35 years and on June 4, 1880, Wood passed into the unknown. The city was draped in black. Businesses and schools closed. Thousands lined the route of procession. Over his grave was a simple monument, a thin sculpture on its face as Wood had directed. It was his one-room log cabin, symbol of a humble life. The simple stone was stolen from his grave early in the next century.

Burials in Woodland came to reflect significant happenings in Quincy's history:

**1849-1851** The Cholera epidemic swept Quincy taking nearly 400 citizens. Many were interred in the cemetery despite laws forbidding it.

**1900** War Department ordered removal of 390 bodies of soldiers from Woodland, a national military cemetery since 1861, to Graceland Cemetery following heavy rains which washed out the hillside, unmercifully exposing remains of veterans.

Woodland is the resting place for Civil War majors and captains, congressmen, as well as many women of Quincy honored for their spirit of industry. Among them are Sarah Denman, founder of Blessing Hospital, and Abby Fox Rooney, the first woman licensed to practice medicine in IL.

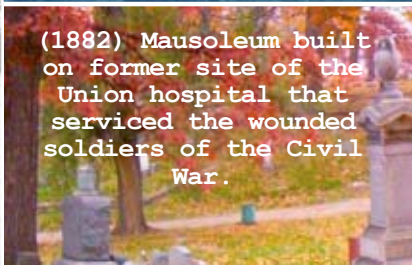
**John Wood Mansion** 425 S 12th  
217.222.1835 | Mon-Sat 10-4



Thousands visited the 112-vault Rogers Tomb the year built, 1878. Quincy entrepreneur Timothy Rogers wanted his mausoleum equal to any in the world.



(1882) Mausoleum built on former site of the Union hospital that serviced the wounded soldiers of the Civil War.



## TODAY

1020 S 5th | Quincy

Some 60,000 souls rest at Woodland.

In 2002 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

**Cemetery Tours weekends  
in October**  
217.222.1835 | [hsqac.org](http://hsqac.org)

(some find Woodland a hotspot for paranormal activity)





**Jonathan Browning** was an American inventor and gunmaker, born in Tennessee. He initially earned his living as a blacksmith, later transitioning to a gunsmith.

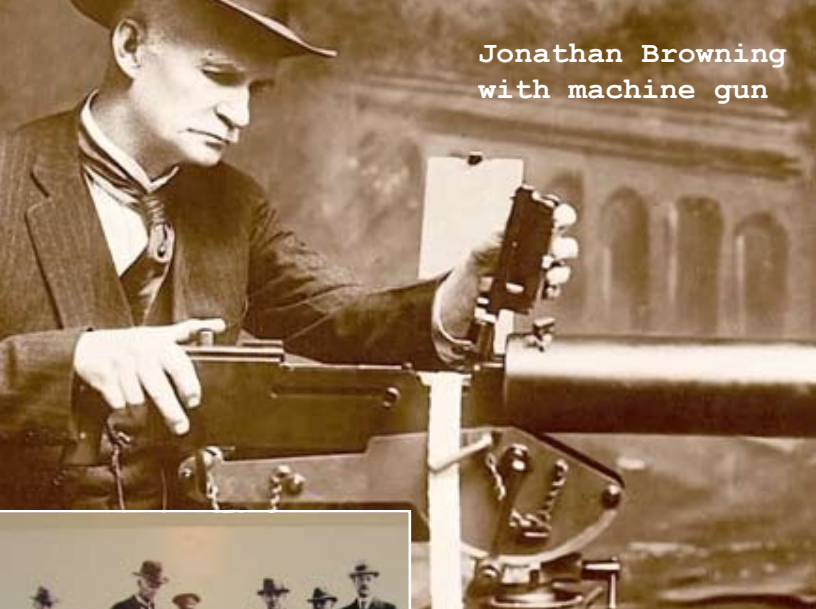
While living in Quincy between 1834 and 1842, Browning invented a “sliding breech” repeating rifle also called a Harmonica gun. The success of the Harmonica produced many orders. It is estimated that each gun took two weeks to make, selling at \$24 a piece.

With his local prominence in Quincy, Browning was elected the justice of the peace. He came to know a young lawyer by the name of Abraham Lincoln, who was an overnight guest in his home on at least two occasions.

In 1843 Browning moved to Nauvoo, IL and joined the Mormon community there, where he established a gun shop. Guns produced by Browning during these times were labeled “Holiness to the Lord-Our Preservation”.

As was common in the Mormon community at that time, Browning was a polygamist, having taken three wives. He fathered 19 children; prominent among them was the gun designer, John Moses Browning, one of the most important figures in the development of modern automatic and semi-automatic firearms.





Jonathan Browning  
with machine gun



"In 1921, John M. Browning  
successfully demonstrated his 37mm  
Cannon to U.S. Army officials."



## TODAY

350 N Main | Nauvoo, IL  
(50 miles north of Quincy  
on the Great River Rd)

**Jonathan Browning Home  
& Gun Shop**

217.577.2610  
[historiconauvoo.net](http://historiconauvoo.net)



13

## Robert Earl Hughes

1926–1958



**Robert Earl Hughes, Jr.** was, during his lifetime, the heaviest human being recorded in the history of the world.

Born in Baylis, IL to farmer and entertainer, Robert Earl Hughes, Sr. and Margaret Robinson. At the age of six, Robert, Jr. weighed 203 pounds. His excessive weight was attributed to a malfunctioning pituitary gland. His chest was measured at 10.3 feet and he weighed an estimated 1069 pounds at his heaviest.

During his adult life, Robert made guest appearances at carnivals and fairs; plans to appear on the Ed Sullivan television program were announced but never materialized.

At 32 years of age, Robert contracted measles that developed into uremia and lead rapidly to his death in 1958.

In successive editions of The Guinness Book of World Records the listing read “He was buried in a coffin the size of a piano case”. Robert’s body had to be lowered into his grave with the use of a crane. His headstone inscription notes that he was the world’s heaviest man at a confirmed 1,041 pounds.

Robert with  
his brothers



Robert standing  
in the doorway of  
his house in 1946,  
during the *Jungle*  
Magazine interview.



## TODAY

400 E Jefferson  
Pittsfield

**Pike County Historical  
Society Museum**

(A pair of Robert's overalls are  
displayed here. The museum is  
in the Historic East School.)

Open Fri-Sun 12-4pm | May-Oct  
217.491.2391  
[pikecoilhistory.org](http://pikecoilhistory.org)



ROBERT EARL HUGHES  
JUNE 4, 1926 — JULY 10, 1958

WORLD'S HEAVIEST MAN  
WEIGHT 1,041 POUNDS

