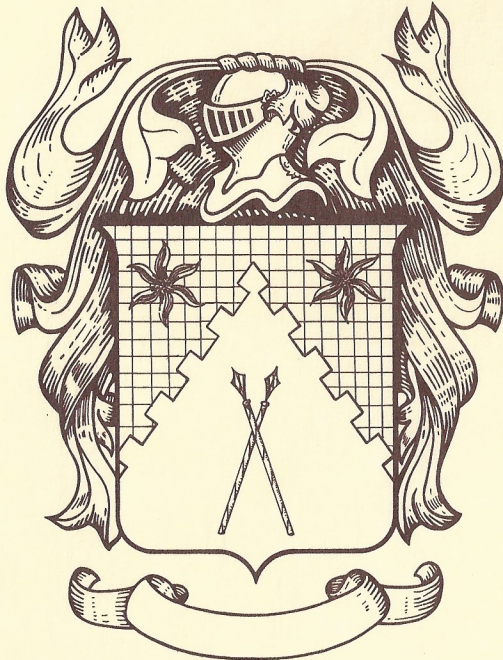


Coat of Arms



Stiff

Historiography

The Stiff Coat of Arms illustrated left was drawn by an heraldic artist from information officially recorded in ancient heraldic archives. Documentation for the Stiff Coat of Arms design can be found in Burke's General Armory. Heraldic artists of old developed their own unique language to describe an individual Coat of Arms. In their language, the Arms (shield) is as follows:

"Per chev. embattled sa. and ar. in chief two estoiles of the last, and in base as many tilting-spears in saltire gu."

When translated the Arms description is:

"Divided by an embattled line in the shape of a chevron black and silver; on upper third, 2 silver stars and on the base 2 red tilting-spears placed crosswise."

Family mottos are believed to have originated as battle cries in medieval times. A Motto was not recorded with the Stiff Coat of Arms.

Individual surnames originated for the purpose of more specific identification. The four primary sources for second names were: occupation, location, father's name and personal characteristics. The surname Stiff appears to be characteristic in origin, and is believed to be associated with the English, meaning, "one who was known for being obstinate (firm, proud)." The supplementary sheet included with this report is designed to give you more information to further your understanding of the origin of names. Different spellings of the same original surname are a common occurrence. Dictionaries of surnames indicate probable spelling variations. The most prominent variations of Stiff are Stife, Stiffe and Stiffen.

Census records available disclose the fact there are approximately 450 heads of households in the United States with the old and distinguished Stiff name. The United States Census Bureau estimates there are approximately 3.2 persons per household in America today which yields an approximate total of 1440 people in the United States carrying the Stiff name. Although the figure seems relatively low, it does not signify the many important contributions that individuals bearing the Stiff name have made to history.

No genealogical representation is intended or implied by this report and it does not represent individual lineage or your family tree.

