

Actual cause of Death

Metastatic lung Cancer Diagnosed Feb. 2007

The New York Times

See Death Certificate
State File #2925010

BUSINESS DAY

Reason of Death Disguised to
Move Money OFFSHORE

Roger B. Smith, 82, Ex-Chief of G.M., Dies

MILFORD TOWNSHIP MI
POLICE HAVE INFO

By MICHELINE MAYNARD DEC. 1, 2007

Roger B. Smith, the General Motors executive who tried to modernize the American automotive giant during the 1980s but instead became associated with its decline, died Thursday in suburban Detroit. He was 82.

Tom Wilkinson, a G.M. spokesman, said Mr. Smith died after a short illness. G.M. did not give the cause.

Mr. Smith, who was the company's chairman and chief executive from 1981 to 1990, became widely known to filmgoers in 1989 as the involuntary focus of the satiric documentary "Roger & Me," which started Michael Moore's career as a director.

Mr. Smith was "almost a character in Greek tragedy, the great man with the tragic flaw," said Marina von Neumann Whitman, who was a G.M. vice president during Mr. Smith's tenure and is now a professor of business administration at the University of Michigan.

Douglas A. Fraser, who was president of the United Automobile Workers union while Mr. Smith was chief executive, said of him, "He tried to change the corporation, but he couldn't quite pull it off."

Mr. Smith led G.M. during one of the most wrenching decades in the history of the company and the automobile industry. As the 1980s began, G.M. sat atop the