Case 292. 57-year-old caretaker of a sports club/co-owner of a caretaker business was overcome in a structural fire of a small tool shed.

A 57-year-old male caretaker of a sports club/co-owner of a caretaker business was overcome in a structural fire of a small tool shed. A member of the sports club who was approximately 200 feet away heard a muffled explosion. He stepped out from between two buildings and saw the shed and decedent engulfed in flames. The witness was unable to render assistance due to the heat generated by the fire. The ignition source was unidentified. Five gasoline cans were stored inside of the building. It was postulated that the decedent had been working on a chain saw at a workbench when the explosion occurred.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health division did not issue a citation to the sport’s club or the co-owner of the caretaker business.