



# TARRANT COUNTY

## TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### William Walter Mayes

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William Walter Mayes was a brother of two of our other veterans, Robert K. Mayes and Charles C. Mayes. He enlisted in a local Confederate cavalry regiment in Dallas County, and owned a considerable amount of property in eastern Tarrant County after the War. During the 1870's he moved to Young County, Texas, where he died after an accident in 1903.

William was born on December 28, 1845 in Shelby County, Missouri, and was a son of Thomas B. Mayes and his wife, Elvira Leake. Many of his descendants have placed information and photographs at [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com). By 1850 "Walter" Mayes was in Dallas County, Texas with his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. John Cooper Cook, and their families. William's maternal grandparents died in Dallas County shortly before the War.

At the time the 1860 census was taken, the family lived in Precinct 1 of Dallas County, Texas. Mr. Cook had died, and the family was headed by Robert's and William Walter Mayes' mother, Elvira. Also living with the family were several children surnamed Cook.

William W. Mayes served the Confederacy as a private in Co. C (Captain J. L. Smith's Company), Stone's Regiment Texas Cavalry. He was seventeen years old, and served in same company and regiment as his brother, Charles C. Mayes. William enlisted at Dallas on September 10, 1861 and was mustered into the Confederate service the same day.. He came to the service riding a horse worth one hundred fifteen dollars and carrying equipment worth fifteen dollars, including one rifle. He enlisted for a term of twelve months. At some time in November or December he was placed on detached service at Camp Washington.

William was sick and remained in his quarters at some point in March or April, 1862. On May 3 he was placed in a hospital. The notation says "Miss," suggesting the hospital may have been in

Mississippi. He was with the regiment in May and June, 1864 on the last surviving muster rolls of the regiment.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Texas Cavalry (also known as Wharton's, Stone's, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rgiment) was organized with 1,150 men at Dallas, Texas, in September, 1861. Many of the men were from Dallas, McKinney, Waco, Austin, and Lancaster, and Bell County. The unit skirmished in the Indian Territory, fought at Elkhorn Tavern, and then moved east of the Mississippi River. It contained 803 effectives in the spring of 1862 and was dismounted during the battles at Corinth and Hatchie Bridge. There the regiment reported 148 killed, wounded, or missing. Assigned to Ross' Brigade, it served with the Army of Tennessee during the Atlanta Campaign, was active in Tennessee, and ended the war in Mississippi attached to the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana. The field officers were Colonels Lawrence S. Ross, B. Warren Stone, and Jack Wharton; Lieutenant Colonels John S. Griffith and Peter F. Ross; and Robert M. White and Stephen B. Wilson.

Judith Amanda Lacy married W.W. Mays on July 21, 1870. She was born in Mason County, Kentucky on May 5, 1848. She was a daughter of James Lacy (1823-1851) and his wife, Elizabeth Reed (1824-1851), both of whom died in Mason County, Kentucky. Even though he died in Kentucky, copies of her father's estate documents wound up in Tarrant County, Texas for a variety of complicated reasons. James Lacy's papers were among the few which survived the disastrous Tarrant County court house fire in 1876.

This file is quite interesting and should be examined by any interested descendants of Robert or William Mayes. It describes a sizable amount of property, including land and slaves, which were inherited by Ann and her sister, Judith, upon the deaths of their parents. It also names and gives other data about the grandparents of Ann and Judith Lacy. Both William W. Mayes and Robert K.. Mayes owned a substantial amount of land in northeast Tarrant County through inheritance of their wives. The land in question is in one of two surveys shown on land maps as A. J. Huitt surveys. The two Huitt surveys are adjacent and both are of three hundred twenty acres. The Mayes wives held an interest in the Huitt survey which lay on the east. It is a rectangular survey, one mile east-west by one-half mile north-south. This tract lies in present-day Euless. Its northwest corner is at the intersection of Euless Main Street and Highway 10. Main Street lies along its western boundary. No modern-day streets run along its southern or eastern boundaries.

William and his new wife, Judith, lived in the same household with William's brother, Robert, and his family at the time the 1870 census was taken. They lived in Dallas County in Precinct 4.

William W. Mayes and his wife and their family appear next-door to his brother, Robert, and his family in the 1880 census of Precinct 2, Young County, Texas. William's children in the family at that time were Thomas L., Claud, William W., Elvira, and Charles W. Mayes.

The 1880 agricultural census shows that Mr. Mayes had twenty-four acres under cultivation and sixty in woodland or pasture. His farm buildings were valued at six hundred dollars and his farming implements were worth seventy-five dollars. The combined value of all his livestock was three hundred thirty-one dollars. He estimated the combined value of all his farm productions in 1879 was

one hundred ten dollars. He owned thirteen milk cows and eighteen cows of other classes. He had produced three hundred sixty-five pounds of butter in the past year. He also had twenty-two hogs and twenty chickens.

Mr. Mayes and his family also appear in the 1900 census of Precinct 2. Two of their children, Lacy Mayes and Claud Mays, appear with their own families on the same page of the census. The children still with William and Judith Mayes in that year included Charles, Josiah, and Elizabeth Mayes. Next door was Walter Mayes and his family. Judith Mayes said she had given birth to seven children, all of whom were still alive.

William W. Mayes was tragically killed just a few days before he reached the age of fifty-eight. He was bringing a wagon load of cotton into Graham when he accidentally fell under one of the wagon wheels and one kidney was crushed. He died on December 12, 1903. He was buried in the Tyra-Murray Cemetery in Young County, Texas.

Judith A. Mayes lived until June 22, 1921 when she died at her home at Murray, Texas. The secondary cause of her death was kidney disease. The primary causes are illegible on her death certificate. She was buried on June 23 beside her husband.

The following accounts of William W. Mayes' children was compiled from public records, from headstone records, and from family information placed at Ancestry.com.

Thomas Lacy Mayes was born July 2, 1871.. He married Lavinia Ann Knight (1874-1955). In 1930 he and his family lived in Fresno, California. His last permanent address was at Joshua, Johnson County, Texas. He died at Joshua in the Kopfer Rest Home on July 29, 1950. He was buried in the Murray Cemetery in Young County.

Claud Mayes was born January 24, 1873. He was a farmer, and for several years he and his wife boarded the school teachers at the Murray school. He died at Newcastle, Young County, Texas on February 5, 1937, and was buried at Newcastle. He was survived by his wife, Emma L. (Clayton) Mayes.

William Walter Mayes was born October 28, 1875. He married Mary Alice Seddon (1879-1973) on September 21, 1898. He died in Texas on January 14, 1916.

Elvira Violet "Vida" Mayes was born August 26, 1877. She married William L. Walsh about 1899. She died in the Hamilton Hospital in Olney, Young County, Texas on May 20, 1960. She was buried at Olney, Texas.

Charles Robert Mays was born November 30, 1879. He died November 10, 1950 in Megargel, Archer County, Texas.

Josiah Reed Mayes was born February 19, 1882. The 1900 census shows his name as Josiah. His death certificate shows it as Joseph, and it shows his birth date as 1881. He married Dovie Ann Cross (1886-1963) in Young County, Texas on May 27, 1903. In 1930 he and his family lived at

Baird, Callahan County, Texas. He worked for many years as a Baptist minister. His last permanent address was 2326 Beach Street in Abilene, Texas. He died at his home in Abilene on July 15, 1953 and was buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery there.

Elizabeth Ann (death certificate says Ann, some family members say Amanda) Mayes was born January 2, 1887. She married Joseph Jefferson Cross (1883-1963). Her last permanent address was 2401 Bird Street in Fort Worth, Texas. She died in Fort Worth in Harris Hospital on April 12, 1958 and was buried at Megargel, Archer County, Texas.

