



# TARRANT COUNTY

## TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Robert Cate

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Robert Cate was a Confederate cavalry veteran who lived in the Grapevine area when the War began. He lies buried in Medlin Cemetery in southern Denton County.

Robert Cate was born in Tennessee on [according to his headstone] March 15, 1830. According to family records at ancestry.com, he was a son of Robert Cate (1789-1879) and his wife, Isabella (Carter) Cate (1801-1875).

Robert and his wife, Mary Jane Hardin, were married in McMinn County, Tennessee on August 4, 1857. She was born July 26, 1835 in McMinn County, Tennessee.

In a statement Mrs. Cate made while she was applying for a Confederate widow's pension, she said she and her husband and their children moved to Texas in 1859.

Robert's military records in the National Archives say he was in Co. A, 34<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, enlisted March 4, 1862, left the service June 30, 1862. Cates's original file in Washington contains an official handwritten discharge certificate signed by Maj. Matthew W. Deavenport: "*Certificate to be given a soldier at the time of his discharge. I certify that the within named Robert Cate of Capt M W Deavenport's Co (A) of the 2nd Regiment of Texas Partisan Rangers Borne in the State of Tennessee age 33 years 5 feet 7 inches high light Hair Fair Complexion Blue Eyes and by occupation a Farmer was enlisted by Capt Deavenport at Grapevine Tarrant County Texas on the 4th day of March to the 30th day of June 1862 There is due him for use and risk of Horse Forty Six dollars and forty cents at forty cents per day for 116 days he having a Horse actually in Service for that length of time There is due him Eleven Dollars traveling allowance from Grapevine Texas to the place of Enrollment to Fort Washita the place of rendezvous being 110 miles at 10 cents per mile. There is due him Eleven Dollars traveling from place of Discharge to Grapevine Texas the place of Enrollment being 110 miles at 10 cents per mile Transportation not being furnished in Kind*

*There is due him for clothing \$25 He is indebted to the Confederate State Twenty Dollars money advanced by Captain Given in duplicate at Fort McCulloch CN June 30, 1862. [signed] M W Deavenport Captain Commanding Company”*

When the 1880 census of Tarrant County was taken, Robert Cate lived in Precinct 3 with his wife, Mary J. Cate (born about 1836), his son James A. Cate (born about 1863), William H. Cate (born about 1865), Horace J. Cate (born about 1869), Carroll M. Cate (born about 1872), Fannie A. Cate (born about 1875).

Robert Cate died in Denton County, Texas on December 28, 1892, and was buried in Medlin Cemetery. He has a readable headstone there.

Mrs. Mary Jane Cate applied for a Confederate widow’s pension in 1910 while she lived at Ballinger in Runnels County, Texas with her daughter and son-in-law, Sarah and Moses Forgey. Sarah was born about 1858. She said she had lived at RFD 1, Ballinger, Texas, since June of 1908.

In her application, she said her husband enlisted in the spring of 1863 under Capt. Crowley and Col. Davenport, and served in the cavalry. In her file, Mary J. stated that her husband *“enlisted in Spring of 1863 and in a few months came home on a furlough sick. Returned to army in about one month and later in the fall of winter of the same year was honorably discharged on account of sickness.”* There are affidavits in her file by David Cate of Justin, Texas and James Cate of Grapevine.

