



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James David George

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James David George was a Union veteran who moved to Tarrant County from Indiana, via Iowa and Arkansas, before 1900. He lived the last years of his life in western Tarrant County, and was buried near relatives in Arwine Cemetery in Hurst, Texas.

We are indebted to one of Mr. George's direct descendants, Linda Zablatnik of Oklahoma City, for sharing her family information with us, including Mr. George's extensive Union pension file.

James was born in Clark County, Indiana on December 16, 1837 (according to his headstone). He was a son of Jesse George (1812-1881) and his wife, Mercy (Anderson) George (1812-1880). The elder Mr. George died in Jackson County, Indiana. In a deposition Mr. George made in connection with his pension, he said he was born in 1838.

The above parentage of James David George is contradicted by a single statement in James D. George's obituary, which says that when he died in 1912 that his parents were still living. This seems impossible, given the age they would have to have been. In addition, this researcher examined every living person in the 1910 census of Indiana who was surnamed George, and none of them were nearly old enough to have been James D. George's parents. Therefore, until other information comes to light, we will assume that his parents were as stated in the second paragraph.

In 1840, Jesse George and his family are found in the Jackson County, Indiana census. There were six children in the family at the time. By the time of the 1850 census, James was living with his parents and siblings in Owen Township of Jackson County, Indiana. James was the fifth of ten children with the family in that year.

James D. George married Margaret Stogdill near Clear Springs, Jackson County, Indiana on July 10, 1856. She was born in Jackson County on September 24, 1839, a daughter of William S. Stogdill (1809-1890) and his wife, Mariah (Elkins) Stogdill (died 1906). Margaret died in Texarkana,

Arkansas on March 11, 1924. Since her gravestone in Arwine Cemetery contains no death date, it may be that her body was not brought back here for burial beside her husband.

The census taker in 1860 found James and Margaret George living in Salt Creek Township in Jackson County, Indiana. They had one child with them, a son named William A. George, who was two years old.

Mr. George's Union Civil War service is somewhat complicated. His pension index card reveals service in at least four Indiana infantry regiments: Co. G, 21st Indiana Infantry; Co. D, 55th Indiana Infantry; Co. C, 137th Indiana Infantry; and Co. F, 145th Indiana Infantry.

His first service was probably as a part of Co. G, 21st Indiana Infantry. Official records say that as a resident of Knox County, Indiana, he enlisted on July 24, 1861, and served until he received a medical disability discharge on October 2, 1861. A check of the census index for Knox County in 1860 does not show James living there. Mr. George said in a deposition made in Fort Worth in 1911 that his first enlistment was about May, 1861 in Co. G of the 21st Indiana Heavy Artillery and that after six months he was discharged on account of disability. His discharge took place at Fort McHenry at Baltimore, Maryland. He was at that time suffering from "scabs and sores" on his legs. A copy of his original discharge is found in his pension file; it says he enlisted at Vincennes, Indiana on July 6, 1861 and received a disability discharge on September 24, 1861 at Fort McHenry, Maryland. At the time, he was five feet ten inches high, had a dark complexion, black eyes, and black hair.

Mr. George remembered that he re-enlisted in the later part of 1862 and served three months in Co. G, 55th Indiana Infantry. The 55th Indiana Infantry was organized at Indianapolis, Indiana for three months' service on June 16, 1862. Most of its duty was spent at Camp Morton, Indiana guarding prisoners until August. It took part in operations against Confederate General Morgan July 4-28, 1862. It was ordered to Kentucky in August and attached to Manson's Brigade as a part of the Army of Kentucky, District of Central Kentucky. It took part in the [Battle of Richmond](#), Kentucky on August 30, at which most of the 55th Indiana was captured. They were paroled and sent back to Indianapolis. The men in the regiment were mustered out September 6 to October 23, 1862.

His service in Co. C, 137th Indiana Infantry was also of short duration. The regiment was organized at Indianapolis and mustered in May 26, 1864. It was ordered to Tennessee and assigned to duty as Railroad Guards in Tennessee and Alabama, as part of the Department of the Cumberland, until September of 1864. It was mustered out September 21, 1864, having lost a total of seventeen men, all from disease. Mr. George said he was unable to recall any details of his service in this regiment.

James enlisted as a corporal in Co. F, 145th Indiana Infantry, on February 1, 1865 at Columbus, Indiana. His records show that he left the service on July 29, 1865. He said of his Union service: ***"...I was in no battles but was in several skirmishes. I was never in the hospital..."***

James D. George's pension file contains many interesting papers. In one affidavit, an old neighbor in Indiana remembered that Mr. George ***"...was limping and complained of the rheumatism"*** when he came home after the war.

The George family was living in Johnson Township of Brown County, Indiana when the 1880 census was taken. With them were nine children: Jesse M. (born about 1861); James E. (born about 1866); Thomas J. (born about 1867); Mercy M. (born about 1869); Francis M. (born about 1871); Clarinda (born about 1873); Laura B. (born about 1875); Margaret R. (born about 1877); and Walter J. (born about 1879).

Mr. George's application for a military pension was filed on June 13, 1881. At some point in the 1880's the family settled for a time in Washington County, Arkansas. In the summer of 1890 the family was living at Wager in Benton County, Arkansas.

Mr. George made the following statement about his physical condition on December 24, 1890: ***"...I had rheumatism in 1861 result of long ride in stock car and exposure as result I had acute articular rheumatism in knees and ankles now all my joints are all more or less afflicted and my right hand is deformed I am unable to do any kind of work on account of my joints..."***

An army comrade, Andrew Thompson of Jackson County, Indiana, also made an affidavit for Mr. George in which Thompson said: ***"...while we were crowded in the box cars in rout from Indianapolis, Indiana to Baltimore, Md. He complained of his legs and feet while on said cars having to stand up being inconveniently crowded. That after we arrived at Baltimore Md. We were put in Ft. McHenry and he (said George) was unable for duty a long time and was discharged in the fall of 1861 as was reported on account of rheumatism. I know these facts from being present and being messmate of him."***

When the 1900 census was taken, Mr. George and his family were living in the City of Fort Worth, Texas in Precinct 1. With him were his wife, Margaret, one of their daughters, Ivy (born in June 1885 in Arkansas), and one granddaughter, Shella M. George (born in April 1893 in Texas to an Iowan father and an Arkansan mother). Margaret George said she had given birth to thirteen children, ten of whom were still living. Mr. George's pension affidavits reveal that he lived in Indiana, Iowa, Arkansas, and Texas after the War.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. George were living alone in the White Settlement/Castlebury area of western Tarrant County. In that year, Mrs. George said she had given birth to fourteen children, ten of whom were still alive. Mr. George told the census enumerator he was a veteran of the Union army.

James D. George died in Fort Worth, Texas on November 8, 1912. His death certificate is very difficult to read. The cause of death was shown as general debility. The informant for the certificate was T. J. George of Fort Worth. James was buried in Arwine Cemetery in Hurst, Texas. On November 26, Mrs. George's application for a widow's pension was filed in Washington.

An obituary for Mr. George was printed in the Fort Worth Record on November 10, 1912: ***"Mourned by 101 Immediate Relatives, J. B. George Dead. J. B. George, one of the aged union veterans of the civil war, died early yesterday morning at his home on Thirty-first and Ellis avenue. Mr. George has passed his seventy-fifth birthday, has ten children of his own, fifty-eight grandchildren and thirty-one great-grandchildren, and, counting his mother and father who are still living, there are 101 of the immediate relatives now living. Mr. George was born on the banks of the Murcata river in Indiana in the year 1837. He came to Texas in 1882 and located***

at Bedford. He came to Fort Worth seventeen years ago. He had been a member of the church for fifty-six years, joining the Methodist church in his nineteenth year and living in this church until a year ago when he withdrew his letter and placed it in the Baptist church, of which he was a member at his death. Mr. George celebrated his golden wedding six years ago, having been married for fifty-six years. The remains were carried to the Arnwine [Arwine] cemetery near Bedford for interment. The funeral was very impressive and the floral offerings were numerous. Forty-six of the ninety-nine children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren were present at the funeral. Rev. Wayne Allison of the North Fort Worth Baptist church, assisted by R. T. D. Carpenter, officiated at the service. The pallbearers were T. R. Ryan, J. W. Wilcox, Jesse Smith, J. W. Morgan, of the local order of Grand Army of the Republic, J. W. Caldwell, and John Browning. He is survived by his wife and the following children: J. B. George of Arkansas; J. E. George of Moore, Okla.; Walter George of Colorado; J. M. George of Fort Worth; Mrs. George Gregory of Dallas; Mrs. George Williams of Handley; Mrs. Cora Clara Sellers of Arkansas; Mrs. John Hendrix of North Fort Worth; and Mrs. Myrtle Angles of Arkansas. The funeral was under the direction of the North Fort Worth Undertaking company.”

In April, 1917, Mrs. George's address was 1919 North Calhoun Street in Fort Worth.

The following list of children of James D. George was compiled from submissions of descendants to Ancestry.com., census records and state death records.

The George children included: William Andrew George, Jesse Madison George, James Edward George, Thomas Jefferson George, Mercy Mariah George, Francis Marion George, Clarinda George, Laura B. George, Margaret R. George, Walter J. George, and Sarah Iva George. There were either two or three more, depending upon which statement Mrs. George gave to the census takers was correct.

William Andrew George was born August 16, 1857. He married Sarah Jane Sexton (1858-1927). He died February 8, 1927. Material in the Sexton Family History by Donald R. Benton says W. A. George was born March 3, 1858 and died March 23, 1931; he lies buried in Elm Springs Cemetery in Elm Springs, Arkansas. He was married to Sarah Jane Sexton in Brown County, Indiana on November 19, 1876.

Jesse Madison George was born April 16, 1861. He was a plumbing contractor. He died at 3423 N.W. 26th Street in Fort Worth on January 7, 1943. He was buried in Arwine Cemetery in Hurst. His headstone has only his initials and surname, with no dates. He married Florence Belle Robertson on April 16, 1882 in Tarrant County. She was born February 12, 1866 and died January 21, 1931 in Tarrant County. They lie buried in Arwine Cemetery. After Belle died he married Annie Victoria Richardson, who died January 3, 1960 and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery. She had earlier been married to William G. Vandiver.

James Edward George was born August 18, 1863. He married Sarah Lyda Curry on December 28, 1884 in Arkansas. He was married second to Minnie Glasco in Tarrant County on October 10, 1891. He died at Texarkana, Arkansas on July 28, 1928.

Thomas Jefferson George was born July 29, 1865. He was a plumber. He died at his home at 2212 Gould Avenue in Fort Worth on May 10, 1943. He was buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery. His wife, Ida, was born November 7, 1870 and died September 1, 1896, and was buried in Arwine Cemetery. He ran a pecan shelling business on 25th Street in Fort Worth. He had a wife named Susie in 1930.

Mercy Mariah George was born November 25, 1868. Some of her descendants have posted queries at genealogy.com. She married James P. Anglin at Elm Springs, Washington County, Arkansas on February 8, 1885. They are found in the census in Washington County as late as 1910. In 1930 she was living at Anderson, Mills County, Iowa. She died in 1942.

Francis Marion George was born about 1871; he was dead by the summer of 1899. Clarinda George was born September 17, 1872. Laura B. George was born November 6, 1874, married George Williams, and was still alive in 1899. Walter J. George was born February 27, 1879; he left home and his mother grieved about him for years. He returned at her funeral then disappeared again, never to be heard from by the family after that.

Margaret R. "Maggie" George was born July 4, 1875. She married George Morris Gregory in Tarrant County, Texas on July 8, 1905. She died January 26, 1914 (according to her death certificate) at 516 North Fleming Street in Dallas. Descendants say she died on January 24. She lies buried somewhere in the City of Fort Worth.

Sarah Iva George was born at Hope, Arkansas on June 1, 1885. Since Hope is in Hempstead County, and is the nearest large city to Washington County (where James George and his family are known to have lived), it may be that she was actually born in Washington County. She married a Mr. Hendrick. She died at 428 Hawthorne Street in Irving, Dallas County, Texas on December 30, 1964. She was buried in Grove Hill Cemetery in Dallas, Texas.

