



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Hamilton C. Rutledge

Compiled by Michael Patterson

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Hamilton C. Rutledge, a veteran of a Kentucky Union regiment, was living in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, in the Hurst-Bedford area, when the 1930 census was taken. He was living in the home of his son, Gordon C. Rutledge.

Hamilton C. Rutledge said he was born in Tennessee to a Georgian father and a mother whose birthplace he did not know. Family sources at ancestry.com report that he was a son of John M. Rutledge, who was born November 27, 1800 in Kentucky and died in Collin County, Texas on July 8, 1887; Hamilton's mother was Mary Ann "Polly" Speer, who was born about 1809 in Cumberland County, Kentucky and died about 1875 in Collin County, Texas. Hamilton's headstone says he was born January 11, 1848; this is in opposition to some records made during his lifetime.

As "H. K." Rutledge he appears in the 1860 census of Cumberland County, Kentucky; he is shown as a native of Tennessee and is within the household made up of his parents and siblings. He is shown as ten years old.

Rutledge served the Union in Co. D, South Cumberland Battalion. Capitol Guards, Kentucky Infantry. He enlisted in December 1864 and was discharged in October 1865. He was pensioned, having filed February 2, 1924. When the 1890 census was taken, Hamilton was shown as a Union veteran in Precinct 1 of Collin County. No regimental information is shown. Rutledge was pensioned. The notation on his index cards seems to say "D Sr Cumberland B___ Capitol Gds Ky Inf"

Family sources suggest that Hamilton Rutledge was married three times, first, in Cumberland County, Kentucky, about 1870, to Louisa Thomas Smith. She was born October 25, 1851 in Cumberland County, Kentucky, a daughter of Charles Wesley Smith (1810-1887) and his wife, Miriam Poindexter (1813-1862).

Louisa T. Rutledge died September 9, 1896 in Collin County, Texas, according to family sources. Six children are reported for this marriage: Martha A. Rutledge (born about 1870); Frances Rutledge (born about 1872); Susan C. Rutledge (born November 14, 1874); Charles M. Rutledge (born about 1874); William Haggard Rutledge (born November 17, 1876, married Emma Bridgefarmer, died in November 1967 in Jones County, Oklahoma); and Elizabeth Rutledge (born October 13, 1878).

He was married second on June 23, 1897 to Margaret C. Watson; internet sources say they were married in Cumberland County, Kentucky. If this is true, he must have gone back to Kentucky after his first wife's death in Texas. She was born February 11, 1869 in Kentucky. She and Mr. Rutledge apparently had at least one child, Joseph Hamilton Rutledge, who was born March 31, 1899 in Collin County, Texas. He died January 24, 1946 in Dallas County, Texas, and was buried there in Restland Memorial Park. He is shown on his death certificate to have been born at McKinney, Texas, a son of James Hamilton Rutledge and a Miss Watson. One internet researcher reports another child from this marriage, Varnie Rutledge, who was born July 4, 1897 in Cumberland County, Kentucky and died in 1966 in Austin, Texas.

Hamilton Rutledge's third wife was Savilla G. Humes. Mrs. Savilla Rutledge died in a rural area in Precinct 8 of Dallas County, Texas on December 30, 1949. Her death certificate shows her to be a daughter of a Mr. Hume and a Miss Carey. It shows her to have been born September 9, 1869 in Kentucky. It says she was buried in Shady Grove Cemetery in Irving, Texas. The informant was Barney Rutledge. Internet genealogy sources concerning Hamilton Rutledge's children are somewhat confusing. It is obvious from primary documents that his first child in his marriage to Savilla Humes was his daughter, Jessie H. Rutledge. Other children in this marriage were John L. Rutledge (born c1904, died March 2, 1914 in Oklahoma); Ruby G. Rutledge (born about 1906); Gordon C. (or L.) Rutledge (born about 1908). There was also another son named Barney or Benny Rutledge, born about 1916, born about eight years after his next-youngest sibling and when his mother was in her mid-forties.

In 1910 Hamilton and his family were living in Precinct 2 in Garza County, Texas in the Sante Fe Rail Road Construction camp. He was born about 1847 in Tennessee to two Tennesseans. This was his second marriage. His wife, Savilla G., was in her first marriage. She was born about 1870 in Kentucky to a Tennessean father and a Kentuckian mother. They had been married nine years. She had given birth to four children, all four of whom were still living. The children with them in that year were Joseph H. Rutledge (born about 1898 in Texas, obviously from Mr. Rutledge's first marriage); Jessie H. Rutledge (a daughter, born about 1902 in Oklahoma); John L. Rutledge (born about 1904 in Oklahoma); Rubie B. Rutledge (born about 1906 in Oklahoma), and Gordie L. Rutledge (born in New Mexico about 1908). Hamilton was working as a laborer.

In 1920 he is found listed as "Henry C. Rutledge" and was living in Precinct 8 of Dallas County with a wife named Savilla (born about 1869 in Kentucky). He is shown with one Turner stepchild, and children Ham (born about 1898 in Texas...who may have been Joseph H. Rutledge); Jessie (born about 1902) Ruby (born about 1906), Gordie (born about 1908), and Bennie, born about 1915. Also with the family in 1920 was a brother-in-law named Charley L. Humes, born in Kentucky about 1879.

Hamilton and many members of his family lie buried at Wilson's Chapel Cemetery in Collin County, Texas. Hamilton died in McKinney, Collin County, Texas on January 22, 1934 and was buried in Wilson's Chapel Cemetery in the southern part of present-day McKinney.



Savilla Hume Rutledge (wife of Hamilton C. Rutledge) and children
photo courtesy of Brenda Hume White

