



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Rev. David William Smith

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Rev. David William Smith was born April 21, 1845 in Golden Grove, Jasper County, Missouri. He was a son of William and Elizabeth Smith (her maiden name was Smith as well). The Smiths moved from Missouri to Fort Worth in 1859, and lived for one year at the spot where Trinity Park now sits. About 1860 they moved permanently to the community which would later become Smithfield. David's younger brother was Eli Smith, for whom the town of Smithfield was named.

David Smith served the Confederacy in Co. E, 8th Regiment (Young's) Texas Infantry, also known as the 12th Texas Infantry. He enlisted January 3, 1862 at Camp Hobart, Tarrant County. He was a 2nd Lieutenant at one point during his service. Another item in his file also shows his enlistment on the same day in Tarrant County, by recruitment officer A. J. Ball, for a term of twelve months. He was shown as seventeen years old on a roll for February 28-June 30, 1862. He was sick on detachment at Tyler, Texas in July-August, 1862, and was sick at Camp Nelson in December, 1862. Smith's military records file contains several very interesting original documents relating to his medical discharge. He said he was born in Jackson County, Missouri, was 5'10" tall, had a dark complexion, gray eyes, black hair. He got his medical discharge at Camp Magruder, Louisiana on January 14, 1864.

His first wife, M. M. Smith, was born February 4, 1845 and died April 6, 1894. Smith married his last wife in Tarrant County in May, 1901. She was sixty-eight years old in 1927, born in Missouri. Her address when she applied for a pension was 1602 Gould Avenue, Fort Worth. She said she had lived in Tarrant County forty-six years. The second Mrs. Smith died October 28, 1929 in Chamal, Tamaulipas, Mexico, at the home of her son, F. Honecker.

Mr. Smith was pensioned for his Confederate service. He was a member of the Grand Prairie (Smithfield) Masonic Lodge. He died June 26, 1920, and lies buried in Smithfield Cemetery. His obituary appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on June 27 on page 4. It said simply: "*Smith. Funeral services for Rev. D. W. Smith, 75, who died Saturday, will be held from the residence, Stop*

Haines, Dallas-Fort Worth Interurban, at 12:30 p.m. Sunday. Burial will be in the Smithfield Cemetery at 3:30 p.m. Sunday.”

A more complete and lengthy obituary appeared on the same day in The Fort Worth Record: “PIONEER METHODIST PASTOR PASSES AWAY. Rev. D. W. Smith, age 75, a resident of Tarrant county for 61 years, died Saturday morning at his home at Stop-Haines on the Fort Worth-Dallas Interurban. He had been an invalid for 13 years. He was born in Golden Grove, Mo., April 21, 1845, the family moving to Texas when he was 14 years of age. The family camped for a year on what is now Trinity Park before moving to what is now known a Smithfield, named after the family. He entered the Confederate army when 16 years old and fought throughout the war. On his return home he became a Methodist minister and gave 23 years of his life to his church. Deceased is survived by his wife, three sons, W. P. of Fort Worth, J. W. of Dallas, C. B. Smith of McKinney; three daughters, Mrs. G. A. Meacham of Clinton, Okla., Mrs. R. S. Clous of Dallas and Mrs. C. J. Knowles of Outlook, Wash.; one step-son, Floyd Honecker of Fort Worth; one half-brother, 30 grandchildren and 17 great-grand-children. Funeral services will be held at the home at Stop Haines at 1 o'clock Sunday, followed by interment at the Smithfield Cemetery at 3 o'clock. The Masons will have charge of the body at the grave.”

David Smith

