



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Joseph Thomas Thweatt

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Joseph Thomas Thweatt was a Confederate veteran from a Tennessee regiment. For many years he and his family were identified with the Grapevine community. He lies buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

Joseph T. Thweatt was born July 26, 1836 in Alabama. He was a son of William A. Thweatt (born about 1814 in Alabama). The family was living in Rock Roe Township in Monroe County, Arkansas in 1860. Joseph's mother was dead by 1860, and may have died about 1852 at the birth of her son, Benjamin. In 1860, William A. Thweatt owned thirteen slaves.

Mr. Thweatt served the Confederacy as a private in Co. B, 17th Battalion (Sanders') Tennessee Cavalry. His official records in the National Archives say he entered the service as a private and left it as a lieutenant. He enlisted May 15, 1862 at Memphis, Tennessee for the duration of the War. He was to be allowed twelve dollars per month for the use of his own horse, which was valued at \$160. At some point during the War he left the regiment, but returned on May 23, 1863 and "...gave satisfactory excuse for his absence." He was Lieutenant of Co. A when he was paroled at Memphis, Tennessee during the first five days of June, 1865. In later years, Mr. Thweatt was a member of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Thweatt was pensioned for his Confederate service.

Several of the Thweatt descendants placed family stories in the [Grapevine Area History](#). In one of them, it says Joseph and his family came to the Grapevine area from Mississippi. The following excerpts are from those written by Frances Bayless Thweatt and Mellie Thweatt Bratcher: *"Joseph Thomas Thweatt...married Sallie Elizabeth Whitley, November 18, 1868. Their five children: Robert Whitley, Richard Lee, William King, Joseph Walter and Jefferson Davis, lived and farmed in the Coppell Community where their parents had settled...The second son, Richard Lee, ...was a very shy young man. The story goes that his when the family had guests, his mother often carried his lunch to him in the field or at the barn...One day he purchased a dress shirt for himself and*

found in the pocket the name and address of a girl that worked in the factory where the shirt was made in West Virginia. After corresponding with her for a while he learned that the Redmon Lodge was holding their convention in New York. He decided to go. On his return trip, he came back by a little town in the mountains of West Virginia, where Clara Furr lived. He met her and her family. He courted Clara two or three days and married her. That shy young Texan and his little bride from the mountains of West Virginia came home to Texas where they shared a very happy life together..."
[After Joseph Thweatt had settled here] *he built a colonial-style two-story house....while building their new home [Joseph] papered their temporary home with newspapers to keep out the cold... [One of the children later]...said the children learned more of the meaning and spelling of words there than they ever did at school..."*

Frances Thweatt's article in the Grapevine Area History and a few other sources list some added information about Joseph Thweatt's children: Robert Whitley Thweatt (born in October, 1869, married Minnie Ola Duncan, died in 1930); Richard Lee Thweatt (1872-1945, married Cora Furr, her headstone in Grapevine Cemetery says her name was Clara J.); Joseph Walter Thweatt (born February 6, 1874, married Plina Bell Prater, died 1946), William King Thweatt (born May 26, 1876, married Rose Jane Hurst, died 1933); and Jefferson Davis Thweatt (born July 2, 1882, married Cora Fannie Sanders, died April 29, 1969). When the 1900 census was taken, Mrs. Sallie Thweatt said she had given birth to nine children, only six of whom were still living. The Thweatt's had a daughter, Laura Thweatt (born about 1884) living with them in that year. Thus there must have been an additional three children who died young.

Joseph Thweatt died in Dallas County at his residence near Coppell in Precinct 8. His death certificate says he died at 11:25 p.m. on March 8, 1904 of cerebral apoplexy of twelve hours duration, after having a previous attack. A short notice of his death appeared in the Grapevine Sun: *"Mr. J. T. Thweatt, an old and highly respected citizen of this community, died last Tuesday. He was 68 years old at the time of his death. Mr. Thweatt leaves a wife, five sons, and several grandchildren, besides a host of friends to mourn his death. The Sun tenders its sympathy."*

Mrs. Thweatt's headstone in Grapevine Cemetery gives her name as Sallie A. E. Thweatt, and her birthdate as July 10, 1842. She died on December 22, 1912. An obituary for Mrs. Thweatt appeared in the Grapevine Sun on December 28, 1912: *"DIED. Last Sunday afternoon at 4:00 o'clock, Mrs. Sallie Ann Thweatt, died at the home of her son, Lee, near Coppell. She was 70 years old at the time of her death. She was born in Tennessee and reared in Mississippi. In 1868 she was married to Joseph Thweatt, who died in 1894 [sic]. Mrs. Thweatt leaves five sons and several grand-children, besides other relatives and a host of friends to mourn her departure. She was converted and joined the Baptist Church when a girl and lived a consistent Christian life until death claimed her. Funeral services were conducted at the home, by her Pastor, Rev. R. Peterson, after which the remains were tenderly laid to rest in the Grapevine Cemetery by sorrowing friends. The Sun tenders its sincere sympathy to the bereaved ones in this sad hour."*

