



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Hugh Lowrance William Collier

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Hugh Lowrance William Collier was born in Henderson County, Tennessee on July 24, 1844, a son of Henry D. Collier and Elizabeth (White) Collier. Henry Collier brought the family to Smith County, Texas in or before 1854 and died there in 1858. The family settled in Omen (Old Canton) where some members of the family remained for generations.

H. L. W. Collier was one of six brothers who served in the Confederate army. He was a corporal in Co. D, 14<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry. He enlisted at Bellview, Texas on March 15, 1862 for a term of three years. On a roll dated October 31, 1862 he was sick in the regimental hospital at Camp Nelson, Arkansas. During some part of November and December he was left sick in a private hospital near Austin, Arkansas.

During the first two months of 1863 he was furloughed for sixty days, during which time he returned home to Smith County, Texas. On May 27, 1863 at Alexandria, Louisiana he was paid \$35 for traveling 350 miles from Smith County, Texas to Pine Bluff, Arkansas. For a time in January and February, 1864, he was again sick in camp. He is shown as present for duty on the rest of the regiment's surviving muster rolls.

When the 1880 census was taken, Collier was living with his aged mother in Smith County. Collier's brief first marriage was to a lady named Reynolds, but descendants have no information about her.



On May 21, 1885, in Tarrant County, Collier married Queen Victoria Poynor (1859-1924), a daughter of Bedford pioneer, Mexican War veteran, and Confederate veteran Campbell Poynor. For several years before 1900 they lived in the Bedford area.

By the time he applied for a Confederate pension in late 1904, Collier was living at Fife, McCulloch County, Texas, where he said he had been living for two years. Collier and his family had moved there for his health. In 1910, Collier and his family were living in Precinct 4 of Coke County, Texas. That year's census reveals that Collier was then in his second marriage, and that his wife had given birth to five children, four of whom were still living.

Ten years later, in 1920, they were living in Fort Worth at 2611 McKinley Avenue in Fort Worth. After Mrs. Collier's death in 1924, he lived for a time with his son, J. R. Collier, and in the Confederate Home in Austin, Texas.

Collier died in Fort Worth at the home of his son at 2706 N.W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street on December 14, 1935. He was buried in Fort Worth in Oakwood Cemetery in Confederate Row. No obituary appeared for him in the Fort Worth newspaper. The Colliers' children included Hugh L. Collier, James R. Collier, Oscar M. Collier, Campbell Collier, and Ora Belle Collier (who died as a baby).

The following notice of Mr. Collier's death appeared in the Dallas Morning News on December 17, 1935: ***"Texas Division Member During Civil War Dies." Fort Worth, Texas, Dec. 16: H. L. W. Collier, 91, who served with Walker's Texas Division, Company D, Fourteenth Texas Infantry, during the Civil War, and who was one of the few Confederate soldiers who took the trouble to obtain a formal discharge after hostilities ceased, was buried Monday in the Confederate plot in Oakwood Cemetery. He died at his home Saturday. He was a member of Robert E. Lee Camp, United Confederate Veterans. Surviving are three sons, Jim, Hugh, and Oscar Collier, all of Fort Worth, and eight grandchildren."***

On May 20, 1965, an article appeared in the Mid-Cities News which included some interesting information about Collier, including some quotes he had made about his service: *"One hundred years ago today, May 20, 1865, Hugh Lorance William Collier received a Confederate Soldier's discharge from the Civil War at Camp Grove, Texas....Only 7 or 8 waited around long enough to get a Confederate discharge, according to the Collier family....The grandchildren all remember how he liked to walk, scrape apples for them, and talk of Confederate victories. He was patriotic to the end, believing in his cause, and stories were related that when the radio once played 'Marching Through Georgia' he got up and went and stood outside in the rain." Some of Collier's quotes included: "...I enlisted on March 15, 1862 in Troup, Texas, in R. F. Riley's company and Dick Taylor was my General. My first engagement was at Mansfield, La. We gained this fight and whipped the Yankees to a finish. This was a two-days fight. The second day's fight was at Pleasant Hill, just a short way off from the place where we fought the day before. This was April 8 and 9, 1864. In the second day's fight we captured 1,700 of their men. We also lost heavily and the Yankee army was weakened so badly they fell back and gave us the victory. From there we were sent to Jenkins Prairie [Ferry] up in Arkansas. We had a hard fight here and lost a number of men in this fight. This was in 1864. After this we didn't do much more fighting. We did more marching from then on trying to find some more of the Yankees to fight. After the fight of Jenkins Prairie, in the spring of 1865, close to Lee's surrender, we were ordered to Hempstead, Texas. While there Lee*

*surrendered. The most of us were at home, for we were all Texans...I got wounded, shot through the hand, and while the fight was going on, I stepped to one side, got out my old handkerchief and tried to wrap my hand up in it. While I was trying to tie up the corners, one of the soldiers who was standing holding horses had me come to him, seeing what I was trying to do, and tied the corners. In the year 1900, I was in Arlington, Texas, I met a man, Collins by name, and we got into a conversation about the war. I told him where I was in the war and he was the man that tied up my hand for me. He could tell me more than I could remember myself. I surely did have a pleasant time with him."*

