



# TARRANT COUNTY

## TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Joshua Dean

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Joshua Dean was a Confederate veteran living north of Big Bear Creek in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County in 1880. He was born about 1840, and his wife, Mary A. Dean, was born about a year later, both of them in Tennessee. Joshua was a son of Jeremiah Dean (b. 1802) and his wife, Nancy (Daniel) Dean. Jeremiah Dean was a Baptist minister who started a church at Flat Creek, Tennessee.

Several researchers have information posted at Genealogy.com about Joshua Dean and his family. Family sources say he was a soldier in Co. E, 1<sup>st</sup> (Turney's) Tennessee Infantry. Dean's file in Washington says he was enrolled at Lynchburg, Tennessee on April 29, 1861 for a term of twelve months. He was formally mustered into the service at Lynchburg, Virginia on May 8, 1861. He said he was twenty-one years old. Records show he was present but sick with the regiment at some time during the months of July and August 1861. He was absent from the regiment because of wounds at some time in November and December, 1862. During January and February, 1863 he was still in a hospital. He was discharged from the service because of disability at some time in March or April 1863. One original furlough for sixty days remains in his file in Washington, signed by the regimental surgeon. Mrs. Dean later said her husband was discharged on April 6, 1863.

Family genealogists report he and Mary Anna Clark were married on August 18, 1863. She was born in November, 1840. She said in her pension application that they were married in Bedford County, Tennessee. Both were living before their marriage in Lincoln County, Tennessee at the time the 1860 census was taken. At the time the 1880 census of Tarrant County was taken, it was recorded that Joshua had one crippled hand, possibly as a result of the wound which hospitalized him while in Confederate service.

Joshua Dean died in Montague County, Texas on March 8, 1892, according to a signed statement from his widow. Mrs. Dean applied for a Confederate pension in 1899, at which time she said she lived at Saint Jo, but her application was disapproved because she owned too much property. It included seventy-six acres of "poor" land valued at two dollars per acre, two mules, one wagon (on

which she still owed money), two milk cows and calves, four hogs, and two old mares. The total value of all these assets was \$286.00. She claimed to be unable to work because of contracting “milk leg” about 1872. This condition is an inflammation of the femoral vein, the principal vein of the thigh, with formation of a clot that blocks the channel of the vein. The leg becomes painful and pale, hence the folk name. In her initial application, Mrs. Dean indicated that they had moved to Montague County about 1885.

In 1904 Mrs. Dean secured statements from a doctor and neighbors restating her need for a Confederate widow’s pension. Her doctor certified that she had suffered a “fracture of the surgical neck of the femur” the result of which was “to leave her a cripple for life.” In addition, her neighbors swore that only twenty to thirty of her acres were fit to raise cotton. Her son, Henry, was forced to rent other nearby land on which to make enough cotton to warrant the time spent on it.

Joshua Dean and his wife are buried in Reed Cemetery, Montague County, Texas. Their headstones contain no dates of birth or death.

Mrs. Dean told the census taker in 1900 that she had given birth to ten children, nine of whom were still living. Census records indicate that all the Dean’s children were born in Tennessee. They included John W. Dean (born about 1865), William R. Dean (born about 1866), Thomas M. Dean (born about 1868), Jeremiah Dean (born about 1870), Sarah E. Dean (born about 1872), Nancy Jane Dean (Aug. 5, 1874-Jan. 1, 1930, the wife of William L. Reed), and Boling T. Dean (born in August 1876). Luther Dean (born in July 1880); Henry Dean (born in April 1883) and Ellen Dean (born in April 1884).

