



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

John Wilson Hutton

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John Wilson Hutton was a Confederate veteran who lived northeast of Birdville when the War began. He lived in Collinsville in Grayson County at the end of his life.

A sketch of John W. Hutton's life appeared in The History of Grayson County, Texas, by the Grayson County Frontier Village, published in 1979. The Hutton family material was researched and submitted by J. W. Hutton's granddaughter, Ruth Henry. Some excerpts from it follow: *"My grandfather John Wilson Hutton, was born in Conway County, Arkansas in 1838, and came to Texas in 1842. He was attending "boarding school" in 1860 when he met Sarah Ellen DeWitt, daughter of Charles and Sarah (Boraker) DeWitt. Ellen was born in Montgomery County, Indiana in 1846, and married near Birdville, Texas February 14, 1861. Grandpa enlisted in Co. F, Waller's Battalion in 1862. When the troops marched away to war, Grandma rode in front of them down Main street in Fort Worth, carrying the flag with one small child (Mary) riding behind her and another one under her apron. She returned to her little log cabin in the woods to wait out the war. She had no close neighbors, but one of her brothers, Amos DeWitt, stayed with her. Her mail was directed to Ellen Hutton, ten miles North of Birdville, Texas.*

"Grandpa was sent to Grayson County to train at Camp Reeves under the command of Col. Wm. Young and James Bourland. He served as Orderly Sergeant along the Louisiana border. He wrote about many skirmishes that took place and the horrors of camp life. When the war was over, he took his family to Franklin county, Arkansas where the DeWitt family had moved. Twelve children were born to them and ten were reared to maturity. They soon acquired a farm and raised cotton and corn. Grandpa put apples in the cellar by the barrel, also molasses, and they lived from the produce of the farm. She knitted their socks and mittens, made all of their clothes, including suits for the boys. Grandpa taught school at a small school called Grand Prairie. They attended church and Sunday School at the school building. Grandma wanted all of her children to be baptized and asked the Cumberland Presbyterian preacher to come to the home to perform this rite. When the

little kids saw him coming, they hid under the bed, but they were soon out and were sprinkled. Grandma said that none of them would ever be hanged.

“After great-grandpa V. J. Hutton died, J. W. Hutton brought his family to Grayson County and settled on his father’s farm east of Collinsville...”

“Grandpa retired from farming and moved to Collinsville about 1898. He was a reader and often entertained the boys up town with the antics of “Peck’s Bad Boy.” He kept up with current events and often expressed a wish to live until 1914 when there would be a great change take place. Surely World War I came _____ a different world. He suffered a heart attack and died at his home July 3, 1907. Grandma continued to live in the home with her youngest daughter, Ella. She passed away Feb. 6, 1922. My grandmother was a kind and gentle woman. Ella is the last remaining member of this family. She is a resident of the Whitesboro Nursing Home, at age 96....”

John W. Hutton and his wife, Sarah Ellen, were married February 14, 1861 in Tarrant County. She was born in Indiana about 1846, and said she had moved to Collinsville about 1891. Hutton served in Co. F, Waller’s Battery Cavalry. He enlisted in Tarrant County, and was living ten miles north of Birdville when the war began. Mrs. Hutton said he originally entered the service in July 1861 in Tarrant County. In her pension application many years later she said her son was about three months old when he left for the army. She lived with her father during the War. Hutton was discharged in Louisiana, and came home.

Hutton originally enlisted in a company raised in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County and commanded by Col. William McGinnis in July of 1861. John W. Hutton is shown as Second Lieutenant of the company. Later, he served the Confederacy as a soldier in Co. F, Waller’s Texas Cavalry. His official records in the National Archives say he enlisted in Captain J. C. Terrill’s Company of Waller’s Battalion of Texas Cavalry at Vermilion, Louisiana on August 27, 1862. He enlisted for a term of three years. He brought with him a horse worth \$100 and equipment worth \$25. He appears on the last surviving muster roll for the company, dated February 29, 1864. He was furloughed for fifty days in December 3, 1863 because of sickness.

In an affidavit in support of her sister-in-law’s Confederate pension application, Mr. Hutton’s sister, Mrs. J. [Joshua] Miller of Grayson County, said John W. Hutton came home only one time during the war, and that he arrived home in May 1865 at the conclusion of the war. She got several letters from him during the war, “but they have all been lost.”.

His widow, Sarah Ellen Hutton, applied for a Confederate pension in 1919 while living at Collinsville in Grayson County, Texas. A mortuary warrant for says she died in Collinsville on February 4, 1922; she died of pneumonia and was buried in Collinsville Cemetery. The warrant was made payable to her son, Martin L. Hutton.