



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Rufus Perry Allen

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Rufus Perry Allen, a son of Alexander Allen and brother of Thomas B. and William Riley Allen, Rufus P. Allen was born in September 1843 in Dekalb County, Tennessee. About 1844 Alexander Allen moved his family to Texas, and by 1850 they were living in Upshur County. They arrived in present-day Bedford, Texas in 1853, and built a large comfortable log home which sat in the grove of old post oaks still standing in the northwest corner of Harwood Road and Oak Grove Lane in Bedford. The home was later purchased by another of our veterans, Wiley Green Cannon. Rufus P. Allen served as a private in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry. Allen told pension authorities he enlisted in Tarrant County in 1861 and served until May 1865 when the regiment was disbanded at Hempstead, Texas. Official records in Washington show his enlistment date as February 2, 1862 at Grapevine, Texas under M. W. Deavenport. Allen was shown absent on furlough from February 11, 1864. Allen was a member of the R. E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans at Fort Worth; he gave them a written statement which said he fought in the following battles: Newtonia, Missouri; Prairie Grove, Arkansas; and Yellow Bayou, Louisiana. Both he and his wife were pensioned by the State of Texas for his Confederate service. For a time in his later life, he lived on J. W. Miller's farm on the G. Beeler survey at Bedford north of the present-day intersection of the Airport Freeway and Bedford Road and southwest of the intersection of Harwood Road and Oak Grove Lane. He was known in the community as "Uncle Rufe." By 1895 he was living south of Smithfield on the W. W. Wallace survey, in present-day North Richland Hills about where Northridge Boulevard intersects Harwood Road. Rufus Allen died at his home near Smithfield on April 20, 1926 and was buried in Smithfield Cemetery. Rutha E. Allen, his wife, was born in Missouri in December 1854, came to Tarrant County with her parents about 1866, and to the Bedford area about 1868. She was a daughter of Bedford pioneer Robert Morrow. She and Allen were married in Tarrant County on February 28, 1872. When the 1900 census was taken, Mrs. Allen said she had given birth to seven children, six of whom were still living. She died near Smithfield on March 5, 1930 and was buried beside her husband in Smithfield Cemetery. Rufus Allen's children included Mary E. Allen, Felix H. Allen, Walter L. Allen, Jesse J. Allen, Robert R. Allen, and Thomas C. Allen. In the late 1990's Allen's grave was marked with a military headstone from the veterans administration. Allen prepared a short

history of his service which he placed in the archives of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth: "I was born in Dekalb County, Tennessee in 1844. Enlisted in Tarrant County, Texas, December of 1861, and was inducted into Company A, 34th Texas Cavalry, Newton's Division of the Trans Mississippi Department. I was in the first battle at Newtonia, Missouri, in 1862; also at Prairie Grove, Arkansas, and Yellow Bayou. My first duty service was with the 34th Texas Cavalry commanded by Colonel Alexander, but later I was put into the infantry of Polignac's Brigade. I never surrendered, but the entire brigade disbanded at Hempstead, Texas, about the 1st of May, 1865."