



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James R. Neace

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James R. Neace was a Confederate soldier who gave his life for the Southern cause at Mansfield, Louisiana in 1864. He came to Tarrant County as a boy in 1847 with his parents, siblings, and a large extended family.

James was born October 3, 1837 in Moniteau County, Missouri. He was a son of Tarrant County pioneers and Peters Colonists Iraneous Neace and his wife, Lucinda (Allen) Neace, both of whom lie buried in Mount Gilead Cemetery east of Keller. Iraneous Neace brought his family here in 1847 and settled along upper Big Bear Creek near where Mount Gilead Cemetery is now located.

James first enlisted in the Confederate Army in Capt. William W. McGinnis's Company of the 20th Brigade of Texas State Troops. A comrade of Neace's made the following statement about the company in 1931 in a Confederate pension application: *"...I was in the service in and around the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas from the time of my enlistment until the close of the war....served in Co. "A" being a troop of Cavalry, a part of Col. McGinnis Regiment. We wore the Confederate uniform and drew our rations from the Confederate government. Our duties consisted principally of rounding up deserters..."*

An affidavit made by Grapevine resident B. R. Wall in 1931 said. *"...Col. McGinnis lived between here and Roanoke, Texas and died when I was a small boy. I have often heard the people speak of this organization as a cavalry troop which chased bushwhackers and deserters..."*

After a time of service in McGinnis's Company, James Neace enlisted in Co. K, 7th Texas Cavalry. His official records in the National Archives say he enlisted October 26, 1861 at Mansfield, Tarrant County, under Captain Thomas Orville Moody. He was mustered into the service on November 15, 1861 at Camp Pickett near San Antonio, Texas. James traveled three hundred miles to the regimental rendezvous at San Antonio. He brought with him to the service a horse worth \$150 and equipment worth \$25. He is shown present on a roll for January and February 1862. He was

promoted to the rank of Corporal on January 6, 1864. Nothing further of him has been found in the official records. In a family history written by his brother, Thomas A. Neace, Thomas said James “...was killed in the Great battle of Mansfield in Louisiana in May 1864...” The battle took place on April 8, 1864.