

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Hezekiah Holman Austin

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Hezekiah Holman Austin. One of the pioneers of the White's Chapel community in present-day Southlake, Hezekiah Austin, was a son of Stephen Blevins Austin. H. H. Austin was born in Alabama on August 6, 1843. Around 1845 his father moved the family to Dade County, Georgia, where they remained for many years.

Hezekiah enlisted in the Confederate Army in Dade County, Georgia on March 4, 1862, and became a member of Co. D, 39th Georgia Infantry, the "Dade County Invincibles." He was captured at the fall of Vicksburg, Mississippi on July 4, 1863, and was paroled on July 8. He is shown in official records absent from the regiment from August 12, 1863 through April 30, 1864.

H. H. Austin and his family were members of the large party of settlers who left Dade County, Georgia in September, 1870 and arrived in the Grapevine area on Christmas Day, about three months later. Austin was first married to Sarah Elizabeth Holland. After her death in 1872, he was married at Grapevine, Texas on September 25, 1873 to Sarah Francis Cannon, a daughter of Lewis Asbury Cannon. She was born December 28, 1853 in Trenton, Dade County, Georgia. The Cannons came to Tarrant County about 1870.

He was known in the community as Uncle Karr Austin. A biography and photograph appear in Grapevine Historical Society, <u>Grapevine Area History</u>, 1979. Family members recalled that he often suffered with his feet from the effects of his Civil War service. Hezekiah was a member of the R. E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth, and he gave them a written statement in which he said he had fought in the Battles of Bridgeport, Tennessee and Richmond, Kentucky. Austin died at his home west of Grapevine on November 15, 1913, and was buried in White's Chapel Cemetery. Mrs. Austin was pensioned by the State of Texas for her husband's Confederate service. His widow died January 23, 1942 in All Saints Hospital in Fort Worth and was buried beside him. His obituary in <u>The Grapevine Sun</u> reads: "DIED. It is with sincere regret that we announce the death of Mr. H. H. Austin, which occurred last Saturday morning about 10 o'clock after an illness of some five weeks from a complication of diseases. Mr. Austin moved to this

community from Georgia about 43 years ago, where he has lived up to the time of his death, and was well-known and liked by all. He was a member of the Methodist church, and in his 71st year at the time of his death. He leaves a wife and eight children—four daughters and four sons, all grown. He was laid to rest in White's Chapel cemetery Sunday morning. Funeral services conducted by Rev. J. A. . . . We extend our sympathy to the bereaved relatives in this sad hour."

H. H. Austin's children by his first wife included Charles Blevins Austin; Mary Jane Austin; and Synthy L. Austin, who died in childhood. With his second wife, he had an additional seven: Minerva E. (Mrs. Claud) Hendrickson; John Lewis Austin, Virginia White (Mrs. John) Morphis; Clinton Oscar Austin; Hezekiah Clifton Austin; and Frances Iona (Mrs. Chester) McLendon.

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