

Darden

Biography of Jacob "Jack" Turner Darden

By his GG-Grandson: Barry George
October 30, 2006



Old Shelby Iron Works Cemetery, Shelby, Shelby Co., AL

Jacob was born 29-Sep-1827 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina and died 2-Apr-1873 in Talladega County, Alabama. He is buried in the Old Shelby Iron Works Cemetery, in the town of Shelby, Shelby County, Alabama. The tombstone (pictured left), reads "Born Sept. 29th, 1827- Died April 2nd, 1873 - Aged 45 years 6 months 1? Day". The center circular caption reads "This Stone is erected by William R. Darden To the Memory of his Father."

His parents may have been **John Darden** born about 1775, died before July 1850 in probably Tallapoosa County, Alabama and **Elizabeth A.** born about 1814 in North Carolina, died after 1860 near Kialijah in Tallapoosa County, Alabama. I currently have no proof that **John Darden** was the father of **Jacob**, only that he was the only Darden listed in the 1840 census of Tallapoosa County, Alabama and that he left a will in Tallapoosa County, Alabama. (Wills 1, 1838-1866, Page 58). Also **Jacob Darden** was first enumerated in the 1850 census of Tallapoosa County, Alabama.

His siblings were believed to be **James, Elias Davis, Elisha, Margaret, Mary Ann, Elizabeth Matilda, Richard R.** (1833-1913) and **John T. Darden** (b.1830).

Jacob married **Matilda A. Merrell** before 1850 in probably Tallapoosa County, Alabama. She was born about May-1834 in Georgia and died after 1900 in Alabama as she was enumerated in the 1900 Coosa County, Alabama census, Travelers Rest District.

Jacob and Matilda had six children, five boys and one girl. They were:



William & Mattie Darden

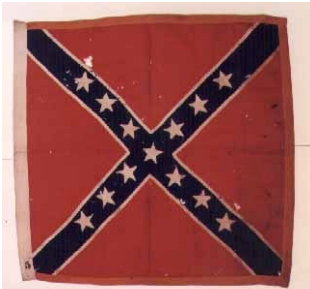
1. **William Richard Darden** born about 1850 in Georgia died 16-May-1920 in Marvel, Bibb County, Alabama. William married **Martha "Mattie" J. Caudle** born about Jul-1862 in Talladega County, Alabama, died 1920 in Bibb County, Alabama. They are both buried in the Mount Carmel cemetery, West Blocton, Bibb County, Alabama.

William and Mattie had six children as follows:

- **William Lafayette Darden** (1880-1963) married 7-Apr-1909 to **Adele Fancher** (1887-1928). William and Adele had eight children: **Susie "Sue" Christine** (1910-1999), **William Henry** (1911-1996), **Annie Louise** (b. 1913), **Arthur** (b. 1917), **Katie M.** (b. 1918), **Elmer James** (1920-1969), **Mildred "Mickey" Dorothy** (1924-2005) and **George Thornton Darden** (1928-1997).
- **Thomas Edgar Darden** (1882-1932) married 7-Oct-1906 to **Bessie Elizabeth Herron** (1888-1981). Thomas and Bessie had five children: **Bessie Beatrice** (1907-1920), **Thomas Edgar** (1909-1992), **Wesley Franklin** (1911-1981), **Russell David** (1913-1942) and **Richard Lavender Darden** (1914-1914).
- **Ethel Darden** (1885-1976) married **Edward "Hugh" Balan Fairless** (1880-1935). Ethel and Hugh had one known daughter: **Catherine Mattie Fairless** (1911-2001).
- **Edna Darden** (1889-1986) married **Edward** married **Allinder**.
- **Maggie Darden** (1899-1905). Edna and Edward had five children: **Myrtle** (1911-1922), **Ada** (b. 1917), **Edward B.** (1920-1956), **Alpha F.** (b. 1923) and **Vivian G. Allinder** (b. 1927).
- **Junie Obadiah Darden** (1891-1954) married 1st 21-Jun-1917 in Blocton, Bibb County, Alabama to **Myrtle Rene Cates** (1897-1948) and 2nd **Kathleen Kirkland** (1904-1963). He had one son with **Myrtle Cates**: **Gerald June Vance Darden** (also known as **Junior "Jud" George**) born 16-Apr-1918 Marvel, Bibb County, Alabama, died 14-Aug-1977 Jefferson County, Alabama. **Jud** is

buried in the Greenpond Presbyterian Church cemetery in Bibb County, Alabama. **Junie** had seven children with **Kathleen Kirkland: Clarence "Fats" (1921-1985), Howard William (b. 1923), Sterling "Stud" Thomas (1925-1995), Douglas Ray, Mattie Lois (b. abt. 1927), Curtis "Bud" Martin (b. abt. 1930) and Mary Kathleen Darden (1936-1937).**

2. **Henry S. Darden (1857-1865).**
3. **Samuel J. Darden (b. abt. 1860).**
4. **Elijah "Eli" Hugh Darden (1863-1933) married 18-Dec-1884 to Mary "Pinkey" J. Terrell (1864-1933). They had the following children:**
 - **Elijah "Eli" Jefferson Darden (1888-1970) married Myrtle D. (b. 1891).**
 - **Alpha L. Darden (1890-1905).**
 - **B. O'Neal Darden (1892-1930).**
 - **Dera P. Darden (1893-1905).**
 - **Clinton J. Darden (1902-1976) married Virginia F. (b. 1904).**
5. **Robert S. Darden (1864-1934).**
6. **Malissa A. Darden (b. about 1867)**



44th Ala Infantry flag

Jacob Turner Darden enlisted 29-Mar-1862 in Columbiana, Shelby County, Alabama as a Private in Captain **William T. King's** Company "D" of the 44th Alabama Confederate States Infantry to serve three years. About three months later, 24-Jun-1862, he was listed as a patient in the Peace Institute Hospital, Raleigh, North Carolina. He was there for about five months before he was released and discharged from the Army on 1-Dec-1862 with a Certificate of Disability for Discharge due to a Spinal Affection. In his discharge papers he was described as twenty seven years of age, 5 feet 11 inches high, light complexion, grey eyes, sandy hair, and occupation when enlisted a farmer.