

THE MARSHALL GUARDIAN



IN MEMORIAM

Dedicated to the memory of the **Sergeant William Williston Heartsill** Company F 2nd Texas Cavalry, C.S.A

Next Meeting...

Tuesday,

October 18, 2022

6:30 P.M.

**Program: American
Battlefield Trust the
Battle of Sharpsburg
movies**

Dinner Belle Restaurant

**4803 East End Blvd.
South**

Marshall, TX 75672

Phone:

903-923-9678

Bring a Friend



W. W. Heartsill

2022 Texas Division Distinguished Camp Winner

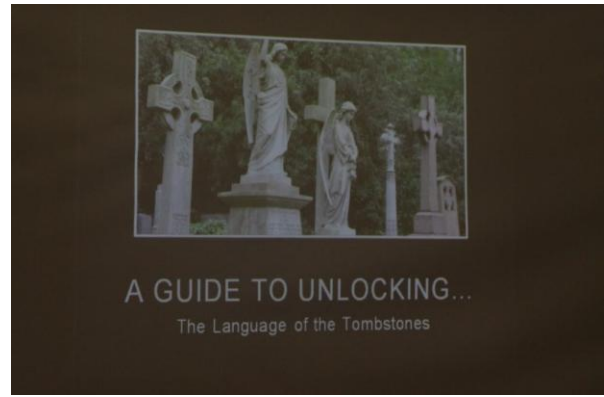
Compatriots and my Brothers All:

Well we had another productive and fun month. We had a good meeting and program presented by the Texas Division 1st Lt. Commander and our Past Camp Commander Michael Hurley on the meaning of the symbols on Victorian era tombstones. We thank Mike for his dedication to our Camp over the years. He has transferred his membership to the new Walker's Greyhound Camp in Tyler where Mike lives. We worked with the powers to be at City Hall and arranged a free lunch to the workers who mow the cemeteries. Our way to thank them for their work. Something that does not happen for them. We installed another VA tombstone on the unmarked grave of a Confederate Veteran. Thanks to the MOS&B we now have Southern Cross of Honor on the graves of General Officers buried in Marshall. At our meeting I appointed Pete Craig and Robb McMahon to be our nominating committee. Our elections are coming up in December. If you wish to serve let them know. Please pray for the improve health of Brother Jeff Norgard who is the LSU hospital. Also keep Brother Joey Hudson in your prayers in his ongoing fight with cancer. On Oct. 22nd the Longview Camp will be having a cemetery walking tour. Info is on the back page..

Bill Elliott, Commander, at your service.



Pictures from the September meeting and our activities by Albert Colvin



Michael Hurley presented his program on meanings of tombstone symbols



All learning from Michael



Appreciation plaque for Michael



Gold Cross Award for Michael



Bronze Cross Award for TJ Henigan

Pvt. James Andrew Durkee Co. F, 17th Texas Cavalry. Born Jan. 28, 1832 in Orange County, Virginia, and Died Marshall, Texas Apr. 8, 1899. Trade: carpenter. Grave now marked at Greenwood Cemetery. Sept. 11, 2022



The plan



The dig



The dismount



The move



The mount



Getting it straight



It's done.



The pose.



With Mrs. Ann.

**Hometown Hero, Frederick Samuel Bass. Captain Co. E, 1st Texas Infantry
October 27, 1831 to July 9, 1897. Captain, Major, Lt. Colonel, Colonel
and the Last Confederate Brigadier General.**



Marshall University, College @ Houston St.

Texas State Cemetery at Austin.

Frederick S. Bass holds the distinction of being the last Confederate General to be officially awarded the rank. He did not receive confirmation of his promotion in some last hour dramatics immediately before the end of the War. Instead, he surrendered at Appomattox as Colonel, and resumed civilian life with no inkling of his promotion. It would take over three decades before that knowledge was made known to him, before he would become the last general of the Lost Cause.

Bass was born on Oct. 27, 1831, at Cedardale, located in Brunswick County, Virginia. His education was provided for by means of a private school in nearby Stoney Mount, VA. It was there that Bass acquired an interest in the military. In 1847, Bass enrolled in the Virginia Military Institute, graduating in 1851 with a ranking of third in a class of 29. Early influences continued to drive his life, and he declined a career in the military to enter teaching, accepting a position in Petersburg, VA. He was offered a job at Marshall University in Marshall, Texas, in 1857, being recruited by the university president to teach mathematics and take over the military department. When President of the University Robert A. Ezell died in 1859 Bass assumed the post of President.

With sectional differences reaching a boiling point in 1860, Bass organized a cadet company at the university, variously referred to either the Marshall Guards or the Bass Grays. When Texas seceded from the Union, he was already commanding what was regarded as one of the best-drilled units in the state. On **May 28, 1861**, the Marshall Guards, ninety-four men strong, took ship in Shreveport and sailed to New Orleans, where they were officially mustered into the Confederate Army as Company E, 1st Texas Infantry, with Bass serving as captain. The organization of the 1st Texas was completed at Richmond, VA. and the regiment boasted a total of 1,800 men. July 21, 1861 found the 1st Texas in camp at Richmond. They missed the 1st battle of the war at the 1st Manassas, but would miss little else in the four bloody years to follow.

As the spring of 1862 approached, the 1st Texas had been brigaded with the 4th and 5th Texas and the 4th Alabama into what was commonly known as the Texas Brigade. It would soon earn everlasting fame and afterward be known simply as Hood's Brigade. Bass commanded his company during the Peninsula Campaign, before being detached and sent west to take an active part in Lieutenant General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's Valley Campaign. Then returned, with Jackson's force, to take part in the Seven Day's Battles, where Bass received the first of several wounds.

The 1st Texas saw hard fighting at Second Manassas when the armies revisited the site of the first major battle of the War. On Sept. 17th, 1862, Bass was promoted to Major and assigned to regimental headquarters. That same day the Battle of Sharpsburg was fought, the bloodiest single day of the War, and the 1st Texas was conspicuous in making it so. The regiment suffered **82.3 percent** casualties in killed and wounded, the largest casualty rate suffered by any regiment on either side during the war.

The regiment missed the Battle of Chancellorsville, as the brigade had been on detached service with Lt. General James P. Longstreet in Suffolk, Virginia, but it was once again with the Army of Northern Virginia for the invasion of Pennsylvania and the Battle of Gettysburg. Hood's Brigade took part in some of the hardest fighting in the battle, most notably in the attack on Little Round Top. The 1st Texas succeeded in gaining the crest of Little Round Top and participated in the efforts to dislodge the Union defenders, Bass was in the thick of the fighting, where he received a slight wound in the leg before the Confederate attack lost its momentum and was thrown back. He then successfully defended against Major General Elon Farnsworth's charge with two brigades of Federal cavalry. Hundreds of Farnsworth men were captured, and Captain George Todd of the 1st Texas declared: "they were all drunk". Farnsworth committed suicide rather than allowing himself to be captured after being wounded and unhorsed, and Bass watched over his remains to ensure that they were shown every honor due a soldier.

The fall of 1863 found Major Bass and the men of Hood's Brigade serving in unfamiliar surroundings. Longstreet's Corps had been transferred from the Army of Northern Virginia to the Army of Tennessee. The brigade sustained heavy losses at the Battle of Chickamauga, suffering casualties of approximately **fifty percent**. Bass had been in command of the regiment there, where he was wounded for the third time in the War. In the spring of 1864, Hood's Brigade, along with the rest of Longstreet's Corp, was once again in Virginia. Bass had been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st Texas and was given the opportunity to exercise regimental command. The timely arrival of Longstreet's Corps at the Battle of the Wilderness turned certain defeat into victory for the Confederates. A determined Federal attack had punched through the Confederate line, and unless it could be beaten back, the day would be lost for the South. At this critical moment, General Robert E. Lee spied Longstreet's Corps coming onto the field with Hood's Brigade in the lead. Lee rode up to Hood's men and ordered them in the lead. Lee rode up to Hood's men and ordered them to advance immediately against the Federals, intending to lead the charge himself, but the Texans would have no part of it. They would charge the Federals, and they promised Lee that they would throw them back, but only if the commanding general remained behind. "**Lee to the rear! Lee to the rear!**" became their chant, as members of the 1st Texas took Traveler, Lee's horse, by the reigns and led him away. The regiment kept its promise and drove back all enemy units in its front.

By the summer of 1864, Bass was promoted to full Colonel and given command of the 1st Texas. Bitter fighting and tremendous losses marked Union General U.S. Grant's Overland Campaign, as armies clashed at Spotsylvania Court House, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. Bass handled his regiment admirably through all these engagements. He received his fourth and final wound of the War at the Battle of Darbytown Road on October 7, 1864. He was shot in the same leg that had been wounded at Gettysburg by spent bullets, **Sergeant T. H. Langley**, along with another soldier, placed Bass on a blanket and took him off the field. While they were thus engaged, he was struck a second time in the same leg.

Bass returned to the brigade during the winter of 1864-1865 and assumed command of the troops who were defending the trenches that ringed Petersburg and Richmond. At White Swamp, his regiment routed two brigades of Federal cavalry, capturing many men and horses. The sounds of the firings caused General W. H. J. F. Lee (son of Robert E. Lee) to swim the Potomac to investigate, and upon seeing the results, he pronounced it to be the most remarkable fight he had ever seen.

Bass served in the capacity of brigade commander until March, just prior to the evacuation of Petersburg, when he was replaced by Colonel R. M. Powell. Powell, the senior colonel of the brigade, had been captured at Gettysburg and had just been exchanged. Bass resumed command of the 1st Texas during the retreat from Petersburg and was serving in that capacity when Lee's Army surrendered at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. He was unaware that orders were following him from Richmond that contained his promotion to Brigadier General and the rightful command of the brigade.

For the next few months, Bass visited his family in Brunswick County and a brother who was living in New York. He returned to Texas in the fall of 1865 to resume his position as president of Marshall University, but there was little to preside over. Bass had to rebuild the teaching staff and spark enrollment before he could reopen the doors to the college. In this endeavor, he was fully supported by the people in and around Marshall. Bass's previous reputation as an educator, combined with his recent fame in the War, provided sufficient inducement for students to enroll. The university reopened on January 8, 1866. He began courting Miss Mary Ezell the daughter of the late University President. And they were married on July 29, 1868. They had a son Robert Ezell Bass in 1869. Mary died in 1870 from unknown causes, and Robert lived only a few years longer. Bass never remarried. In 1882 Bass resigned as President, intending to return home to Virginia. Before he could act on this he offered a position at a college in Jefferson. In 1890 he moved to Texarkana to continue teaching. While there his house burned to the ground, causing the loss of most his personal effects.

In 1894, failing health and a disease of the eyes forced Bass to retire from teaching. By 1895 his eyes had become so bad that he was for all intents and purposes blind, and he moved to the Confederate Soldier's Home in Austin, TX. Surgery restored his sight, but his health continued to decline, so he remained at the home.

In June of 1887, Bass received a surprise from the Federal War Department in Washington. For years, they had been going through all the captured Confederate military correspondence as the government compiled the Official Records of the War. They found the orders promoting Frederick Bass to Brigadier General, and someone in the War Department took it upon themselves to locate Bass and send him the document. More than thirty-two years after the end of the War. Frederick Samuel Bass became the last General of the Confederacy. He did not have much time to enjoy his new found fame, however, as he died on July 9, 1887. The obituary that appeared in Marshall's *Evening Messenger* on July 13th stated: "A Great Soldier and a Great Man is No More". The article ended with the following: *If the great unknown beyond the portals of life holds in reserve some mighty hall wherein are gathered the souls of warriors and of noble men, it is certain that Col. S. F. Bass fills a place of honor in that grand company, near to Lee, who loved him, near to the great Jackson and the great Stuart, to whom he was akin in chivalry, in true manliness, and in that depth of sympathy that could sooth a dying soldier's agonies as a women.*

Bass was laid to rest in State cemetery in Austin where other Confederate leaders such as Albert Sidney Johnston, Ben McCulloch, and William R. Scurry were also buried. His promotion had eluded him during the retreat from Petersburg, and the honor of it would elude him even in death. Bass was omitted from Ezra Warner's *Generals in Gray*, the biographical classic on Confederate Generals, when it was published in 1959. It was not until Bruce Allardice wrote his *More Generals in Gray* in 1995 that Bass was officially recognized as being a legitimate General of the Confederacy.

This article was written by Robert P. Broadwater and appeared in the October 2003 UDC Magazine. I found this information in the file folder of Samuel S Bass at the Inez Hatley Hughes Research Library of the Harrison County Historical Museum.

Another sad fact is that his plain tombstone has Col. T.S. Bass engraved on it. Not Brigadier General F. S. Bass. What great honor we have that he served from Marshall, Texas. As a closing note only 11 men of the 118 that served in Company E survived the War and only 5 members who joined the ranks when they left Marshall in 1861 only Col. Bass, Sgt. W.H. Coleman, Franklin M. Mays, T.H. Langley and Samuel T. Watson came home to Marshall. **We salute General F.S. Bass, 1st Texas Regiment.**

SCV National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs



Bottom row #9 Sgt. W. W. Heartsill, #10 Brigadier General Walter P. Lane



Marshall Heroes, representing the Texas Division on the 1st Wall of Honor.

Sept. 22, 2022: Our Camp supplied lunch to the crews that mow Marshall & Greenwood Cemeteries.



The first group of 5 came by and had Bodacious sandwiches, chips, cookies and drinks



Larry the crew foreman



another mowing crew member

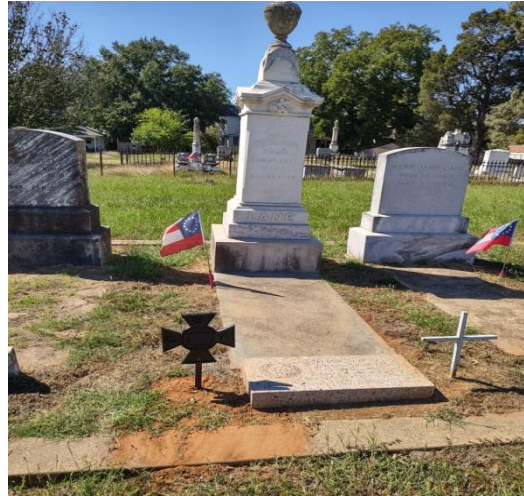


Amanda Wynn supplied the plates and chips, Ann Brannon supplied the cookies and our Camp provided Bodacious Sloppy Joe’s drinks and tables and chair. This is our way of thanking them for their hard work maintaining these 2 cemeteries and the 300 Confederate Veterans buried in these 2 cemeteries.

Colonel Richard B. Hubbard, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, Chapter #261, Tyler, Texas. Our Camp requested that the MOS&B Chapter in Tyler to supply 5 Southern Crosses of Honor for the graves of 4 Generals and 1 Colonel buried here in Marshall at a cost of \$680.00. They agreed and they have been installed by Commander Elliott who also bought one for W. W. Heartsill's grave.



Brigadier General Horace Randall



Brigadier General Walter P. Lane



Brigadier General Alexander Hawthorne, Brigadier General Matthew Ector



Gov. / Col. Edward Clark



Orderly Sgt. W. W. Heartsill

In Memory of the Confederate Companies from Harrison County, Texas

2nd Texas Cavalry Co. F “Walter P. Lane Rangers”	Captain Sam J. Richardson
3rd Texas Cavalry Co A “The Texas Hunters”	Captain T. W. Winston
1st Texas Infantry Co. E “The Marshall Guards”	Captain F. S. Bass
7th Texas Infantry Co. D “Bass Greys”	Captain K M Van Zandt
7th Texas Infantry Co. H “Texas Invincibles”	Captain W. B. Hill
17th Texas Cavalry Co. E “Hendricks Company”	Captain S. B. Hendricks
17th Texas Cavalry Co. K “Clough Rangers”	Captain Gil McKay
14th Texas Infantry Co. B “Clough and Hill Avengers”	Captain W. L. Pickens
14th Texas Infantry Co A. “Marshall Mechanics”	Captain N. S. Allen
14th Texas Infantry Co. H “Cypress Tigers”	Captain John Miller
28th Texas Cavalry Co. F “Harrison County Lancers”	Captain Phil Brown
1st Cavalry Regiment Partisans Rangers	Captain Hec McKay
1st Cavalry Regiment Partisans Rangers	Captain S. W. Webb





Cemetery walking tour: Oct. 22nd, Grace Hill Cemetery, 601 W. Marshall, Ave. Longview. 10AM Gen Gregg Camp #958

Upcoming Reunions

2023 Texas SCV 126th Annual Reunion

June 2-4, 2023 MCM Elegante's, Lubbock, TX.

2023 SCV 128th Annual Reunion: July 19-22 at Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs Arkansas

We will be passing the Bucket at our meetings for the Flag replacement fund as they will need changing soon.



Compare picture on page 2 with this one. TJ was just sworn in as a Cadet by Michael Hurley on 4/25/2018

2022 Camp Leadership

Bill Elliott
Camp Commander
(903) 263-9092
Email: etaia@att.net

Pete Craig
1st Lt Commander
(903) 926-9990
Email:petecraig@shreve.net

Robb McMahan
2nd Lt. Commander
(310) 490-4341
robb@lastrebel.net

Frank Crisp
Adjutant
3478 Strickland Springs Road
Marshall, TX 75672
(903) 578-0090
Email: ftc_785@hotmail.com

Dick Brassell
Chaplain
479-544-3717
Pennyb2@hotmail.com

T.J. Henigan
Sgt. at Arms
(903) 407-2185

How Do I Join The Sons of Confederate Veterans?

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved. Membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either lineal or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet Membership.