

Private William Joseph Willoughby Company B – 4th Battalion Georgia Sharpshooters

Joseph was born December 4, 1841, in Monroe Cty., Georgia. He was the son of William Joshua Willoughby and Adeline Cooley Willoughby.

The 1860 census for Pike County, Georgia, finds Joshua (35) and Adeline (40) Willeby [sic] with 7 children on the farm: **William J.** (18), Sarah (12), Solomon (14), Lucinda (8), Archibald (7), Susan (4) and Governor J. E. B. (3 months). A child named Lousan was born in 1858 but died before the census. James will be born in 1863.

Joseph enlisted on August 31, 1861, in Barnesville, Georgia, for 3 years or the war. He joined Co. B of Caswell's Battalion (4th Battalion) Georgia Sharpshooters.

Joseph married Emily E. Musgrove on January 10, 1864. He received two furloughs in early 1864. One in January-February with no note of the duration (obviously this was when he married) and a 6 day furlough during the March-April time span.

A variety of unspecified clothing receipts appear in his records on May 7 & 26 and on June 9, 26, and 28 all in 1864. These would span the battles from Dalton, GA., to the gates of Atlanta.

Muster reports show him absent wounded on the October 31, 1864 report. No records of the type of wound or hospital.

Following Bentonville (3-19-1865) there was a massive consolidation of undersized units and on April 9, 1865, his unit became part of Company B, 54th Regt. of Consolidated Georgia Volunteers.

Joseph surrendered and was paroled, from the Army of Tennessee, at Greensboro, NC, on April 26, 1865.

Postwar he returned to Lamar County, Georgia, where he and Emily would farm and raise 8 children: Zilphia Ann, John, Joseph, Charles, **William Henry**, Susan, Andrew & Sallie Elsie. Joseph and Charles were twins and both would die before majority.

Emily will die in 1920 at 74 years of age and Joseph will die in 1924 in his 83rd year. They are both buried in Union Cemetery, Goggins, Georgia.

(Compiled Service Records Confederate – Brewer Library, UDC, Richmond, VA., Micro Copy 266, File 193; Family history provided by Mike Willoughby including census reports from Ancestry.com for 1860, 1900, 1910 and 1920. Note: Private Willoughby is sometimes listed in the service records as W. J. Willoby; Ancestry.com Federal Census Report 1860, Provo, M653-134, P. 110, image 109.)