

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William Hunley Evatt

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William Hunley Evatt was a Georgia cavalry veteran who came to the Euless area from Arkansas and lived here for many years. He lived the last part of his life in Fort Worth and lies buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Evatt was born in Georgia on April 7, 1843, a son of William Evatt, according to William Hunley Evatt's death certificate. He told the 1900 census taker that both his parents were born in South Carolina. Family postings at ancestry.com and census information show him to have been a son of Georgia and Alabama pioneers Riley Bates Evatt (1812-1872) and his wife, Abby Rilla Campbell Evett (1814-1891).

They spent some time in Georgia until about 1849, when they moved to Alabama. Mr. Evatt himself apparently believed he was born in Alabama. They moved to Walker County, Georgia in the mid-or-late 1850's. Both the elder Evatts died in Waldron, Scott County, Arkansas. This county almost touches Franklin County, where William Hunley Evatt and his family lived in 1870.

The 1860 census of Walker County, Georgia includes the family of Rial Evatt, with William H. Evatt as a seventeen-year-old boy. Another of the siblings was Wiley P. Evatt, born about 1848, who was probably the Wiley Evatt who lived with William Hunley Evatt's family in Arkansas ten years later.

Mr. Evatt served the Confederacy in Co. A, 3rd Confederate Cavalry. It was a regiment raised directly by the Confederate government rather than by one of the states. He enlisted at Loudon, Tennessee on October 1, 1863 for a term of three years. He was captured near Marietta, Georgia on June 18, 1864, and was sent north on July 23. He was to be sent north of the Ohio River and freed on July 31, under oath not to return south as long as the war lasted.

His signature on an oath of allegiance to the federal government, dated July 31, 1864, shows his place of residence as Walker County, Georgia. He was five feet nine inches tall, with a light complexion, dark hair, and blue eyes.

About 1866, Mr. Evatt married Parthena M. Bunch, a daughter of James M. Bunch and his wife, Susan Tigert, and a native of Walker County, Georgia.

By the time the 1870 census was taken, the Evatts had moved to White Oak Township in Franklin County, Arkansas. They had only one child with them...Carrie Evatt, who was born in Arkansas about 1868. Also with the family was a twenty-two year old named Wiley Evatt, born in Georgia about 1848, perhaps a younger brother of William's.

The Evatt's appear in the census of Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, Texas in 1880. They were living in that part of Precinct 3 which lay south of Big Bear Creek. Mr. Evett said he was suffering from "chronic sore eyes." He said he was born in Alabama. Their children with them in that year included Cora B., Oscar, Pierie, Mattie, Charles, and James. They came to Texas about 1875, between the births of Mattie and Charles.

William Evatt's home appears on the 1895 Sam Street map of Tarrant County. In modern-day terms, it sat in Euless along the west side of present-day Highway 157, on the T. Jasper survey, about halfway between the Airport Freeway (SH121) and Signet Drive.

In 1899, Mr. Evatt was called upon by his old friend, William T. Martin of Wise County, Texas, to make an affidavit in support of his (Martin's) application for a Confederate pension. Evatt and another of our veterans, George Guess, told officials they had served in Co. A, 3rd Confederate Cavalry with Martin, and had known him since about 1861.

The family's listing in the 1900 census of Tarrant County's Precinct 3 indicates they were still living at Euless at that time. Mrs. Evatt said she had given birth to twelve children, ten of whom were still living. Mrs. Evatt said she was born in Georgia to two native Kentuckians.

Neither Mr. Evatt nor his widow applied for a Confederate pension to the State of Texas. Mr. Evatt died at his home at 1637 South Jennings Avenue in Fort Worth at 5 p.m. on February 8, 1930. He died of arterial sclerosis and myocardial failure of two years' duration. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery on February 10.

An obituary for him appeared in the Fort Worth Record-Telegram on February 10, 1930: "WILLIAM HUNLEY EVATT. Services for William Hunley Evatt, 86, who died Saturday at his residence, 1637 South Jennings Avenue, will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon at the Gause-Ware Mortuary. Rev. C. O. Shugart, pastor of Central Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery. Active pallbearers will be C. A. Gaston, Hubert Cannon, Evatt Cannon, Hubert Evatt, Wayne Evatt, and Tom Shaw. Honorary pallbearers will be Charles Matney, Henry Morten, Sam Dick Martin, W. R. Wilson, H. P. Collins, Marvin Scott, Oren Brown, H. L. Nutt, J. M. Moore, John Clifton, Henry Sanders, J. W. Haley, W. W. Cromer, Jesse Holt, L. P. Card, and Thurman Cline."

The 1930 census taker visited the Evatt household during the short time Parthena Evatt was a widow. She and her daughter, Lura Evatt, were living together. Mrs. Evatt said she was born in Georgia to a Kentuckian father and a South Carolinian mother. Lura was forty years old and single.

Mrs. Parthena M. Evatt died only a few weeks later, still in her home at 1637 South Jennings. Her death certificate says she was born in Georgia on March 16, 1850, and that she was a daughter of William Bunch and Susan Tigart. She died at 10:45 p.m. on June 26, 1930; her death was caused by cerebral hemorrhage, myocardial insufficiency, and arterial sclerosis. Hypertension was a contributing factor. She was buried beside her husband in Greenwood Cemetery on June 28.

Mrs. Evatt's obituary appeared in the Fort Worth Record-Telegram on June 27, 1930: "MRS. PARTHENA EVATT EXPIRES AT HOME HERE. Mrs. Parthena M. Evatt, 80, died at her residence, 1637 South Jennings Avenue, at 10:30 o'clock last night. The body is at the Gause-Ware Funeral Home pending burial arrangements. Survivors are five sons: Oscar, Dallas; Charles, Fort Worth; J. R., Wayne, Okla.; William, Fellows, Cal.; and R. G. Evatt, Byars, Okla., and five daughters: Mrs. T. R. Cannon, Smithfield; Mrs. M. Euless, Oklahoma City; Mrs. A. M. Hopping, Pingree, Idaho; Mrs. J. C. Jicha, Noble, Okla., and Miss Lura Evatt, Fort Worth."

According to a statement Mrs. Evatt made in 1900, she gave birth to twelve children. They included Carrie B. Evatt, Wylie Oscar Evatt, Pieria Edna Evatt, Mattie Evatt, Charles C. Evatt, James R. Evatt, P. Euless "Eula" Evatt, Lura Evatt, William Evatt, Emma Evatt, and Robert G. Evatt. There was one other child whose name we have not discovered.

Carrie B. Evatt was born about 1868. Carrie Evatt married A. G. Landers in Tarrant County on October 8, 1891. She was apparently dead by 1900, based upon a statement her mother made to the census taker that year.

Wylie Oscar Evatt was born in Arkansas on September 10, 1870. He was a watchman. He died at his home in Dallas at 4422 Newmore Street on May 14, 1955, and was buried in Restland Memorial Park in Dallas. His wife, Ida Evatt, survived him. She was Ida Ann Fuller, the daughter of William Nelson Moody Fuller (another of our veterans) and Mary Keeling. She was born August 31, 1876 and died July 16, 1965. They were married in Tarrant County on December 29, 1898.

Pieria Edna Evatt married Thomas Riley Cannon (1871-1948) in Tarrant County on December 11, 1890. Pieria Edna Evatt was born October 8, 1872 and died January 12, 1961 in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas. She was buried beside her husband in Shannon Rose Hill Cemetery in the Handley section of east Fort Worth, Texas. This compiler remembers the night their old two-story home at Bedford burned; he could see the glow of the fire from downtown Fort Worth.

Mattie Evatt was born about 1874. She married Martin Euless in Tarrant County on January 10, 1897. He was a son of Elisha Adam Euless, for whom the City of Euless was named. In 1930 they were living with their children in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma at 2229 22nd Street, where Mr. Euless was working as a field manager for a drilling company.

Charles C. Evatt was born in Texas on August 18, 1876. He was a salesman. He died at his home at 1638 South Jennings in Fort Worth on September 5, 1938. He was buried in West Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. His wife, Lotta Evatt, survived him. She was Lotta Jane Becker, the daughter of George A. Becker and Mary Andrews, both of New York. She was born September 25, 1886 and died June 7, 1957.

James R. Evatt was born in August 1878 When his mother died in 1930, he was living in Wayne Township, McClain County, Oklahoma. In that year he was the McClain County Road Commissioner. James and his wife, Mary, were married about 1907. They were in Oklahoma by 1910.

P. Euless "Eula" Evatt born in January or June, 1882, and married Augustus M. Hopping. They lived in Pingree, Bingham County, Idaho when Mrs. Evatt died in 1930. They were married about 1910, and were living in California about 1916 when their daughter, Rose Eula Hopping Hopkins, was born.

Lura Evatt was born in Texas on April 28, 1885. She was never married. Her last home was the one she had shared with her parents on South Jennings. She died in Fort Worth in the Jones Convalescent Hospital on May 16, 1964 and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

William Evatt was born about 1886. His death certificate in California gives the date as November 7, 1889, When his mother died in 1930, he and his wife and children were living in Fellows, Kern County, California where he was working in the oil fields. He died in Los Angeles, California on October 9, 1952.

Emma Evatt, who was born in January 1890, married John C. Jicha, who was a native of Czechoslovakia. They were living at Noble, Cleveland County, Oklahoma when Emma's mother died in 1930. They were married about 1909, and had moved to Oklahoma by about 1911.

Robert G. Evatt was born about 1892, He was living with his wife and children at Byars, McClain County, Oklahoma in 1930 when his mother died. He and his wife, Mabel, were married about 1916. In 1930 he was working as the proprietor of a drug store.



