Josiah Gass  was born January 1, 1844 (Gass himself once said 1843) in Dade County, Georgia, a son of Milton Gass and Malinda Farmer.

He enlisted in the Confederate army in Dade County, Georgia as a private in Co. F, 34th Georgia Infantry. According to official records, he enlisted May 17, 1862. He was captured at Vicksburg, Mississippi on July 4, 1863 and was paroled there on July 8. He was captured at Dalton, Georgia on May 13, 1864 and was released at Camp Morton, Indiana on May 20, 1865.

He married Katherine Tinker in Dade Co., Ga. June 27, 1868. She was born December 13, 1849 and died February 4, 1934, both in Dade Co., Georgia. Gass applied for a pension in 1902 while living in Dade County, Georgia.

One of the physicians examining him said he did not appear to be an aged man and might be able to support himself by manual labor. In his application, Gass said he had lived in Georgia all his life. In his declaration Gass said he was in the prison camp at Camp Morton, Indiana the last year of the war. He wrote, “I was captured near Chickamauga as the army was retreating and taken back north.”

He was still living in Dade County, Georgia as late as 1907. He died January 7, 1912, and was buried in White’s Chapel Cemetery. His widow, Sarah Gass, applied for a pension in Dade County, Ga in 1914. In her pension declaration in Dade County, Georgia, she said Josiah was a resident of Trenton, Dade County, Georgia when he died.

However, he very obviously died here since he has a gravestone with clear dates in White’s Chapel Cemetery, and many of his descendants are here. It may be that he was on a visit here when he died. He has no Texas Death Certificate. He was a brother of George Hamilton Guess, who changed the spelling of his last name at the time he moved to Texas. No obituary for him appeared in the Grapevine Sun.
Mr. and Mrs. Gass in front
kids in back (l-r) are: Patrick, J. C. and Carrie
photo taken about 1902