Marma Duke O’Neal was a Confederate veteran who lived in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, south of Big Bear Creek, when the 1880 census was taken. The 1900 census says he was born Feb. 23, 1833 in Tennessee to two Tennesseans. A record at ancestry.com says he was a son of Peter C. O'Neal and Frances Cocke.

When the 1850 census was taken, “Marmaduke” O'Neal was living in Montgomery County, Tennessee with his widowed mother, Frances O'Neal (born about 1800 in Tennessee) and seven siblings.

He and Margaret E. Ramey were married in Montgomery County, Tennessee on May 26, 1858. Family genealogists on the internet say she was born December 3, 1836 in Montgomery County, Tennessee, to Samuel Ramey and his wife, Milly (Crotzer) Ramey. According to the 1900 census, Margaret was born December 7, 1831 in Tennessee to a Tennessean father and an Alabamian mother. She died April 23, 1932 in Denison, Grayson County, Texas.

Marma O'Neal applied for and was granted a Confederate pension in 1899 while living in Denison, Grayson County, Texas. He said he was sixty-five years old at the time. He said he was a member of the 28th Tennessee Artillery. He said he came to Texas in 1869. His file contains affidavits by two brothers, James B. O'Neal and W. B. O'Neal, and a brother-in-law, Thomas H. Taylor, all of Montgomery County, Tennessee. One of the affiants said O'Neal was nearly blind when he left Tennessee, and that O'Neal had since written that he was completely blind.

In 1900 they lived at 231 Crawford Street in Denison. Mr. O'Neal was the proprietor of a boarding house. Mrs. O’Neal said she had given birth to ten children, six of whom were still living.
At the time the 1910 census was taken, they were living with their son, Louis S. O'Neal, on the Denison and Bells Road. Louis was born about 1865 in Tennessee.

Marma D. O’Neal died at his home at 710 West Hull on January 4, 1917, of senility and bronchitis. The time of day at which he died is unreadable on his death certificate, and the information about his parentage was not recorded. W. G. Gillespie was the informant, and Marma was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Denison. His and his wife’s graves are probably unmarked.

Several of his descendants have posted queries and information about the family at the various internet genealogy sites.

A list of the O’Neal’s children, compiled from various internet and primary sources, includes: Margaret E. Ramey (1836-1922); Amanda O’Neal (1861- ); Peter A. O’Neal (1863- ); Louis S. O’Neal (born about 1865); Rebecca A. O’Neal (November 3, 1868-1954); Horace S. O’Neal (November 13, 1871-1910); Mary O’Neal (1872- ); Emma O’Neal (1874- ); Josephine O’Neal (1876); and Dora O’Neal (January 28, 1878-1961).