Robert Wright was native of Indiana who moved to Texas about 1859. He entered the Confederate cavalry from Denton County, and moved into Tarrant County near Mount Gilead for a few years in the 1860’s. He lies buried in Mount Gilead Cemetery near Keller.

*This Robert Wright is not to be confused with one Robert W. Wright, who was born about 1841 in Georgia. Robert W. Wright settled in Denton County and was living there in Precinct 5 at the time of the taking of the 1870 census. He and his brother, William Crow Wright, both served in the Confederate Army in Madison’s Texas Cavalry Regiment. Both men became prominent stockmen in Denton County.*

Robert Wright was born in Harrison County, Indiana on October 4, 1836. Family researchers at ancestry.com say he was a son of George Wright and his wife, Julia Ann (Reagan) Wright, both pioneers in Denton County, Texas.

When the 1850 census of Harrison County, Indiana was taken, Robert was thirteen years old and was living with his parents and siblings in District 45. The family was farming their own land.

Mr. Wright appears in the 1860 Denton County, Texas census in the area served by the post office at Valetta Ranch. He was working as a carpenter and living in a family headed by David M. Street. The family next door was the one headed by his future father-in-law, John T. Hill. Mr. Wright’s parents and siblings had also moved to Denton County by that time.

Robert Wright enlisted in the Confederate service on June 23, 1862 at Denton, Texas. He enlisted for a term of three years, and served as a private in Co. A, 29<sup>th</sup> (DeMorse’s Regiment) Texas Cavalry. His surviving military records are quite sparse. He is last shown on a muster roll for the regiment for May and June 1863.
Robert Wright married Lucinda C. Hill. She was born in Tippah County, Mississippi on December 23, 1845, and was a daughter of John T. Hill and his wife, Nancy (McCain) Hill, pioneers in Denton County, Texas. Two of her brothers, Eli Allen Hill and John Henry Hill, were also Civil War veterans and are included on this memorial. She died April 21, 1877 and was buried in Mount Gilead Cemetery in Keller, Texas.

Mr. Wright and his family appear in the 1870 census of Denton County’s Precinct 4, in the area served by the post office at Lewisville. He owned real estate worth four hundred fifty dollars and personal property worth six hundred twenty-three dollars. They had four children with them in that year: Jefferson D., Mary L., Texana, and Julia A. Wright.

Robert Wright registered to vote in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County on November 22, 1869. He said he had been a resident of Texas for ten years and of Tarrant County and Precinct 3 for two years. The name next to his in the voter registration list is that of his brother-in-law, Eli Hill.

Robert Wright died October 10, 1877 and was buried beside his wife in Mount Gilead Cemetery. Their children, all of whom were still minors, went to live with various friends and relatives in both Tarrant and Denton Counties.

The following short accounts of their children’s lives were taken from family internet sources, census records, and public vital statistics files.

Jefferson D. Wright was born in July 1861. He was still alive in 1880, and was boarding with and working for William J. Shaw in Denton County.

Mary Lavona Wright was born about 1863. She married James Wilson in Denton County on August 15, 1877.

Texana Wright was born October 16, 1865. She married Jasper N. Martin (1855-1906) in Tarrant County on December 21, 1882. She died December 21, 1893 in the Grapevine, Texas area. Her husband has a headstone in Lonesome Dove Cemetery in Southlake.

Julia Ann Wright was born February 1, 1867. She married Shepard Calvin Busbee (1859-1908). She died at 6:30 p.m. on April 23, 1946 in St. Joseph’s Hospital in Fort Worth in Tarrant County. Her last permanent address was 204 Lampe Street in Arlington. Her death certificate says she was buried in Boles Cemetery in Tarrant County, however her headstone is located in the Jordan-Hight Cemetery in Grand Prairie in Dallas County, Texas. This cemetery was known by several other names in the past, one of them being the Bowles Cemetery.

Nancy Louisa Wright was born October 20, 1870. She was married twice, first to Atlas Wade Rivers (1866-1900) in Denton County on December 11, 1884. She next married Tolbert M. Cantrell in
Denton County on December 8, 1900. She died February 13, 1911 in Grand Prairie, Dallas County, Texas. She lies buried in the Jordan-Hight Family Cemetery in Grand Prairie.

Addie Wright was born July 20, 1872. She died at 5:50 p.m. on November 2, 1943 in the Denton Hospital and Clinic. Her last address was 2026 Senna in Denton, Texas. She was buried in the IOOF Cemetery there. Her grave marker also contains the name Bradley in parentheses. Her death certificate shows “unknown” for both parents’ names, but inexplicably shows “Dakota” for both their birthplaces. This is almost certainly a typist’s interpretation of “DK” for “don’t know.”

Margaret Wright was born March 9, 1874. She married Nicholas Mitchell Pickard in 1887 in Denton. She died at 8 a.m. on December 14, 1944 at her home on College Avenue in Grand Prairie, Dallas County, Texas. She was buried in Southland Cemetery in Grand Prairie.

Mary Alice Wright was born December 29, 1875. She married Robert P. Woods (1871-1950) in Denton County on December 26, 1892. She died at 9:45 p.m. on November 5, 1931 near Denison, Grayson County, Texas. She and her husband were buried at Denison.

Photos courtesy of Allen Wheatley at www.teafor2.com