

# HARSHAW, DAVID TECUMSEH

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HARSHAW, DAVID TECUMSEH, born in Washington County, New York, February 13, 1825; son of George T. and Reliance (Sherman) Harshaw; married Maria Jesus Andrada, born in Sonora about 1845, who went with him to attend a Harshaw family reunion at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, in 1880; they had no children.

Enlisted, age 36, at San Francisco, October 30, 1861, to serve 3 years as Private, Company I, 1st California Infantry, occupation when enlisted - Sawyer; transferred to Company K, same Regiment, and promoted to 1st Sergeant, February 1, 1862; went from Camp Downey, near Oakland, by sea to San Pedro and on to Camp Latham, between Santa Monica and Los Angeles; the Company left there March 7 and marched via Camp Wright to Fort Yuma arriving April 17, 1862; left there two days later and arrived in Tucson May 21; stationed there until July 20 when the Company left for the Rio Grande arriving at Mesilla, August 30, 1862.

He was reduced to ranks November 22, 1862, and was at Fort Craig during most of his service in New Mexico; again promoted to Sergeant January 14, 1864; detached from the Company and was with the expedition which left Fort Craig May 16 and established Fort Goodwin on the Gila River, June 21, 1864; Colonel E. A. Rigg, who was in command of the expedition, wrote a report on September 19 in which the following appears:

July 17, sent party of nine men in charge of Sergeant Harshaw, Company K, First Infantry California Volunteers, (from Fort Goodwin) to Fort Bowie with instructions to go by Graham's Pass and Ewell's Station, striking the old overland road near the latter point, to observe the character of the road, and on his return to report in writing as to distance, wood, water, and grass. From

Sergeant Harshaw's report it will be seen that this route is preferable to the trail through the Chiricahua Mountains or by San Simon, the country being open and small parties not so liable to be attacked by Indians. The route is also shorter. Sergeant Harshaw's report was forwarded to department headquarters.

Returned to Fort Craig where he was honorably discharged November 10, 1864; employed by the Quartermaster at that Post as Interpreter and Yardmaster from December 22, 1864, to July 13, 1865, when he became Wagon and Forage Master and served as such until February 13, 1866; again employed in the same capacity from December 21, 1866 to June 15, 1870; he then returned to Arizona to engage in growing livestock as is indicated by the following item printed in the Tucson Arizona Citizen on December 20, 1873:

Agent Jeffords recently advised D. T. Harshaw to remove his cattle from the San Pedro Valley. This valley is near the Chiricahua (Apache Indian) reserve and the advice given Mr. Harshaw is a friendly warning.

About 1875 he engaged in mining on the east side of the Patagonia mountains; the Tucson Bulletin of March 7, 1877, mentions him as being in town from the Trench mine; the Post Office of Harshaw, on Harshaw Creek, near where he was mining, was established on April 29, 1880; he was listed in the U. S. Census that year at Davidson Springs, Pima County, A.T., age 55, occupation - Miner.

His name appears in Disturnell's Arizona Gazer, published in 1881, as proprietor of stage station at Davidson Springs, about 30 miles southeast of Tucson; when he became a member of the Society of Arizona Pioneers in 1884 he gave his occupation as Stockraiser; in reporting his death the Tucson Arizona Star stated:

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He was an old timer well and favorably known to every one who has ever lived in Southern Arizona. He came here as a Sergeant in Company K, Captain Nick Davis' First California Infantry in 1862. He was mustered out of the service at Fort Craig, N. M. and receiving the appointment as Forage Master continued to reside there for the next several years.

Finally however he returned to Arizona where he has since lived, and followed the occupation of miner and ranchman in both of which he was successful. For the past seven or eight years he has lived on the mouth of Harshaw Canyon, a pass through the eastern end of the Santa Rita Mountains and famous for its many tragic scenes the country over.

The District Court and the Democratic County Convention will adjourn out of respect to his memory, and will attend the funeral in a body. He would, had he survived, have been one of Pima County's next Supervisors, in as much as the Democratic Convention had purposed to have put him in nomination for the office. Dave Harshaw was a typical frontiersman, a man with a big heart, the very essence of noble qualities. His death will be sincerely mourned and regretted by all.

Died at Davidson Spring, Pima County, A. T., September 30, 1884, aged 59; buried G.A.R. Cemetery, Tucson, War Department headstone; his estate was appraised at \$8,767, the principal items of which were 225 head of cattle at \$22 - \$4,950; 40 horses and mules at \$30 - \$1,200 and a half interest in the Davidson Spring ranch valued at \$2,500.

#### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Records of the Rebellion, Series 1, vol. 50, pp. 367-368.
- DeLong, S. R. - History of Arizona, S. F. 1903, p. 162
- Barnes, W. C. - Arizona Place Names, Tucson, 1935, p. 199.
- Probate Court of Pima County - Docket No. 374
- Orton, R. H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, 1890, p. 376.
- The Adjutant General of the Army - Military Service records.
- The Quartermaster General's Office - Civilian personnel.
- The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, December 20, 1873; October 4, 1884, 2:2 and 3:1 (funeral)
- The Arizona Star, Tucson, October 1, 1884, (obituary).
- The Daily Bulletin, Tucson, March 7, 1877, p. 3.