

**Alexander Carr Biography**

Alexander Carr was born in Logan County, Kentucky on February 17, 1842. He grew up in the same neighborhood as his future wife Mary Ann Teasdale and knew her since she was 6 years old. He was owned by Jimmy Allison of Russellville, KY until Mr. Allison’s death when he became part of the estate that went to Jimmy’s daughter Susan. Susan had married a man named John Vick so Alexander’s last name changed from Allison to Vick.

On March 1, 1864, the 22 year old Alexander Vick enlisted in Company I, 16th USCT at Clarksville, TN for three years. He was described as 5 feet 5 inches with a black complexion, and black hair and eyes. He listed his occupation as farmer. The 16th USCT was stationed in Chattanooga, TN for the duration of the war except for the period when they were ordered to Nashville in response to Confederate General Hood’s attack upon the city. The 16th USCT was in reserve so it did not participate in the battle. Alexander was in the city at that time because his uncle, Joseph Allison, who was also in the Army had a chance to see him after the battle.

Aside from a note in the May/June 1865 roll stating he was detailed to the Engineer Department which ended by the July/August roll, Alexander was present with his unit for his entire enlistment with no lost equipment. He was mustered out on April 30, 1866 in Nashville, TN and owed the government $6.30 on his clothing allowance.

Upon leaving the army, he returned to Russellville, Ky. After a year, he moved to Clarksville, TN in 1867. On April 24, 1869, Alexander married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Ann Teasdale. They had five children together, but only two survived to adulthood. Ever Carr was born in 1870 and her brother Eugeen Carr was born in 1876. When he moved to Clarksville, Alexander met up with his father, Barry Carr. Barry convinced Alexander to change his name to the family name of Carr. His father had also served with the USCT during the war, and later moved to Kansas where he died.

The 1880 census shows Alexander, Mary, and the two children together in one household. Alexander was working as a laborer and could not read or write. They bought 219 Ford Street on June 24, 1893 from Dr. N. L. Carney. It was a four bedroom house on a small lot. The location is described as being on Taylor’s Hill in the north part of town.

Alexander filed for an invalid pension on February 17, 1894. He complained of rheumatism, a sprained ankle (sprained while on camp duty when he slipped in a hole and sprained it), deafness, pain in his back and hips, disease of the heart, gravel in his bladder, and being unable to lay on his left side. According to a deposition given in support of his pension request, he had been a black-smith but had to quit due to failing health. After examination by a physician, he was awarded a pension of $6 a month for rheumatism and heart disease. One of these exams done on November 25, 1896 noted he was 54 years old with a height of 5 feet 5 ½ inches and weighed 159 pounds.

The 1900 census lists Alexander, Mary and Eugene living at 219 Ford Street. At that time. Alexander was working as a body laborer and owned the house with no mortgage. On June 2, 1903, Alexander Carr died in his house of Cardiac Hypertrophy (a thickening of the muscle wall of the heart) with Rheumatism as a contributing factor. At the time he died, his occupation was listed as stone mason. He was buried by Nace Dixon in Mt. Olive.