

## MEACHAM,WILLYS Elbert

Name MEACHAM, WILLYS  
Rank 1LT Company G Unit 101 IL US INF

### Personal Characteristics

Residence WAVERLY, MORGAN CO, IL Age 33 Height 5' 8 1/2 Hair DARK  
Eyes BLUE Complexion DARK Marital Status MARRIED Occupation FARMER  
Nativity CHRISTIAN CO, KY

### Service Record

Joined When AUG 9, 1862 Joined Where WAVERLY, IL  
Joined By Whom ROBERT MCKEE Period 3 YRS  
Muster In SEP 2, 1862 Muster In Where JACKSONVILLE, IL  
Muster In By Whom N/A Muster Out N/A  
Muster Out Where N/A Muster Out By Whom N/A  
Remarks PROMOTED CAPTAIN

Name MEACHAM, WILLYS  
Rank CPT Company G Unit 101 IL US INF

### Personal Characteristics

Residence WAVERLY, MORGAN CO, IL Age 34 Height 5' 8 1/2 Hair DARK  
Eyes BLUE Complexion DARK Marital Status MARRIED Occupation FARMER  
Nativity CHRISTIAN CO, KY

### Service Record

Joined When APR 11, 1863 Joined Where YOUNGS POINT, LA  
Joined By Whom GOV YATES Period 3 YRS  
Muster In APR 11, 1863 Muster In Where UNION CITY, TN  
Muster In By Whom N/A Muster Out N/A  
Muster Out Where N/A Muster Out By Whom N/A  
Remarks RESIGNED FEB 1, 1865

He is listed on the Jacksonville Civil War monument and the 1872 Morgan Co. History.

From the Illinois Marriage database:

MEACHAM, WILLIS E HUDSON, RACHAEL S 03/01/1855 / SANGAMON

In the 1860 census of Waverly, Morgan Co., IL:

8	1692	1660	MEACHAM	Willis	31	M	Farmer	5,000	1,700	Ky
9	1692	1660	MEACHAM	Rachael	33	F				IL
10	1692	1660	MEACHAM	Susan A.	5	F				IL
11	1692	1660	MEACHAM	Ellen	5m	F				IL REMARKS: as of Aug 1

In 1870 they are still in Waverly, Ellen is not listed and they have another girl, Maggie, age 8.

He applied for pension 12 Jun 1888 from IL. His wife, Rachael applied for pension Jan 19 1890 from IL.  
b 27 Oct 1828, died 27 Nov 1889, buried East Cemetery, Waverly, Morgan Co., IL His wife is also there.

### Obit:

Captain Willis E. Meacham was born in Christian County Kentucky, Oct. 27th, 1828, and died at his home in this city Nov. 27th, 1889.

He came to Illinois with his father, Mr. E. D. Meacham, in the year 1831, and settled on Lick Creek, in Sangamon County. March 1st, 1854 he was united in marriage with Miss Rachel Hudson, and to them were born three children, Addie, Helen and Margaret. Helen dying in infancy while Addie and Margaret with his wife survive him. In the year 1857 he moved to Waverly where he resided up to his death with the exception of his term of service in the late war. His occupation in life, in the main, was that of a farmer' practical and never flinching from any kind of work that he saw ought to be done. As a citizen Captain Meacham was very highly esteemed by all who knew him; he placed high stress upon his word, contracts, and in his dealings with men, always recognizing and respecting the religious and moral element of society in any community, not infrequently criticizing those who did not.

In regard to his military life, he enlisted in Company G, 101st. Reg. Ill. Vol. Infantry, Aug. 9th, 1862, from this place. He was elected 1st Lieut. In starting out and after the resignation of Captain Robert McKee he was promoted to captain of the company, which he faithfully and nobly filled up to his resignation which took place on account of failing health, Feb. 1st, 1865, at which time but few of his company expected him to live long. He left home, family and friends to help defend the flag of the country he loved and stayed with the boys from the first; sharing the march and battles from Cairo to the Sea, and after crossing the river at Savannah, Ga., at what was known as Smokey Rome, in South Carolina, he bid his boys good bye and while yet strong in mind the tears stole down his cheeks, as he called them by name, and pressing the hand of each he bid them farewell. Captain Meacham was a firm believer in the Christian religion and though not himself a professing Christian, he always had a warm regard for a true consistent Christian. In his last sickness he expressed on different occasions his belief in the scriptures, his respect for the church, and the necessity of preparation for death, and only regretted that he had not all his life been a Christian. Before his death he expressed his confidence in the merits of Christ and the mercy of God, and died trusting in the Saviour. Capt. Willis E. Meacham to this community will be missed and not soon to be forgotten by any who knew him. And while his body is laid to silent rest, may we hope for a heavenly enjoyment of his spirit beyond. The funeral took place at the M. E. Church, at which there was a very large attendance indeed. A very convincing sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Adams from Matthew, 24, 44. Mr. Adams was assisted by the other pastors of the city and the Captain's old chaplain, Rev. Wingate Newman, of Palmyra. At the close the remains were taken in charge by John W. Ross Post No. 331, G. A. R. and interred in the east cemetery.