

Aquilla Glascock, 43rd Virginia Cavalry

On June 10, 1863 at Rector's Crossroads, Fauquier County, Virginia, Aquilla Glascock was enlisted as a private in Company A, 43rd Virginia Cavalry, by John S. Mosby. He appeared as present on the June – December 1863 muster roll.¹ On February 18, 1864, during the Union "Cornwell Raid", Glascock was wounded in a skirmish near Paris, Virginia.² Wounded in the neck and chin in a skirmish with the 2nd Massachusetts Cavalry, he was captured April 30, 1864 near Rectortown, Fauquier County. On May 3, 1864, he was sent to Vienna, Virginia and forwarded to Old Capitol Prison where he was held until September 20, 1864. Along with 37 other Rangers, Glascock was then transferred to Fort Warren Prison in Boston Harbor where he died on May 6, 1865.³

The son of George F. and Maria Louisa Hascall Glascock, Aquilla Glascock was born May 16, 1845 at "Spring Hill" north of Rectortown, Virginia. He was a nephew of ranger Alfred Glascock.⁴ Upon hearing of their brother's death, sisters Ellen and Anne Glascock contracted with a cousin, John E. Fletcher of Fauquier County, to go to Boston, and there, secure and return to Fauquier the body of their deceased brother. Their father, George F. Glascock, was deceased by this time. Fletcher was a known Union man and had numerous contacts in the Federal Government. He was required to obtain a pass to take the B&O Railroad to Boston and had to provide approval documents for release of the body.⁵ The body of Aquilla Glascock was returned to Fauquier and buried near his father in Ivy Hill Cemetery in Upperville, Virginia.

Editor's Comments: The Surgeon of the 43rd Virginia Cavalry, Aristides Monteiro, in his "War Reminiscences", wrote a lengthy dissertation on the conditions at Fort Warren Prison. He stated that prison authorities "starved many brave and gallant men to death" and that "young Glascock was deliberately starved to death by the willful malice of the prison authorities".⁶ The fact is that out of 151 Rangers incarcerated at Fort Warren, Aquilla Glascock is the only one who died in that prison. This compares to eleven rangers dying at Point Lookout Prison and two each at Fort Delaware and Camp Chase Prisons.⁷ Although Aquilla Glascock died almost a month after the surrender of Lee's Army, he is considered the last member of the 43rd Virginia Cavalry to lose his life during the Civil War.

Let us never forget the sacrifice of Aquilla Glascock.

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¹ National Archives, Washington DC, Compiled Military Service Records for soldiers serving in the 43rd Battalion, Virginia Partisan Rangers, Microfilm #324, Roll #208, Record #559.

² Williamson, James J., *Mosby's Rangers*, 2nd Edition, p. 136.

³ National Archives, Washington DC, Compiled Military Service Records for soldiers serving in the 43rd Battalion, Virginia Partisan Rangers, Microfilm #324, Roll #208.

⁴ Salmans, Levi B., *History of the Descendants of John Jacob Rector*, p. 232.

⁵ John E. Fletcher papers in the position of John K. Gott, Arlington, Virginia.

⁶ Monteiro, Aristides, *War Reminiscences by the Surgeon of Mosby's Command*, pp. 230-231.

⁷ National Archives, Washington DC, Compiled Military Service Records for soldiers serving in the 43rd Battalion, Virginia Partisan Rangers, Microfilm #324, Roll #208.