

James Blair, Texian Ancestor of J. Duane Blair

Jerral Duane Blair of the Ehpraim M. Daggett Chapter #36, descended from James Blair who came to Texas from Belleville, Illinois, in October, 1837 at the age of 37. He was born May 18, 1800, and died October 22, 1878. His first wife was Martha Bonham (the aunt of Alamo hero, James Bonham). It is through this marriage that I descended. After Martha died, he married Nancy Brantley. From these unions he raised ten children in Red River County, Texas. Prior to coming to Texas, he served as a lieutenant with Captain Abraham Lincoln in the Black Hawk Indian War of Illinois. James also served as a captain under General Tarrant in quelling various Indian uprisings in East Texas in 1841. He was a farmer and Indian fighter.

In 1850, James rode a horse by himself back to Illinois (through Indian Territory) and brought his four grandchildren back to Texas after the death of his daughter and her husband. In 1855, he was awarded additional land in Texas for his service in the Black Hawk Indian War.

His sons served in the Civil War in the 2nd Regiment-Texas Partisan, which later was merged with the 34th Texas Cavalry.

Lineage from James Blair to Jerral Duane Blair

James Blair, b. May 18, 1800, d. Oct. 22, 1878

John David Blair, b. Aug. 31, 1828, d. Mar. 1, 1904

John David Blair, Jr., b. June 26, 1859, d. Sep. 24, 1933

Ira Whittington Blair, b. Dec. 2 1888, d. May 12, 1964

Lester Floyd Blair, b. Dec. 2, 1911, d. Aug. 15, 1986

Jerral Duane Blair, b. Sep. 6, 1934