



William Allen Martin, Ensign, Co. G, 65th GA Infantry, CSA

- 1828 Oct 15: William Allen Martin was born to Constantine and Judith Martin in Henry County, VA. He was their first born child.
- 1840 The US Federal Census enumerated in Henry County, VA listed William's father, Constantine, as the head of the household of eight people. William Allen Martin would have been twelve years old and there is one male listed under ten to fifteen years old.
- 1850 Aug 16: The US Federal Census enumerated in Henry County, VA listed Constantine Martin as the head of the household. William Martin was listed at twenty two years old and he was working as a farmer.
- 1853 Oct 6: William Martin married Clarissa Hicks in Henry County, VA.
- 1860 Jun 22: The US Federal Census enumerated in Floyd County, GA listed William A. Martin as the head of the household. He was thirty two years old and employed as a farmer with \$1000 in his personal estate. He lived with his wife Clarissa, four children, and an orphan.

¹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6571117/william-allen-martin>

1862 May 6: Enlisted in the Confederate Army in Rome, GA. He was mustered into Smith's Legion, GA partisan rangers as a private.

(Confederate.)
M. | Smith's Legion. | Ga.

W. A. Martin,

Rank, { Capt. Moore's Company, Infantry
Battalion, Smith's Legion, Georgia
Partisan Rangers.*

Appears on
Company Muster Roll
of the organization named above,
for May 6, 1862 to -----, 186 .
dated July 1, 1862.

Enlisted:
When May 6, 186 .
Where Rome Ga.
By whom R. H. Moore,
Period 3 Years.

Last paid:
By whom -----
To what time -----, 186 .

Present or absent Not Stated
Remarks: -----

1863 Mar 15: After a reorganization, Smith's Legion became part of the 65th GA Infantry.

Jul 3: William's brother, Thomas Benton Martin, was wounded in the leg at the Battle of Gettysburg. He served with the 24th VA Infantry and his injury would result in an amputation in mid-August.

1864 March: Transferred to Co. G, 65th GA Infantry.

Apr 11: The captain in command of Co. G, 65th GA infantry nominated Pvt. Wm. A. Martin for the rank of Ensign and the honor of carrying the colors for the regiment. It is

² <https://www.fold3.com/image/58862457>

interesting that the captain notes, "the color sergeant and sergeants of the line do not desire the position, it is conferred upon him as a special mark of commendation."

RECORD DIVISION
NO. 131210

Had Trs Co Ga Val.
Mar. Dalton Apr 11 1864

S. Cooper
A. J. Genl
Genl

I have the honor to nominate
private Wm A Martin (Co G) this Regt for the office of
Ensign He is a citizen of the State of Georgia
and was born March 15. 1828 in Henry County Virginia.

His conduct in the battles in which this
Regiment has participated has been marked with
a high degree of courage & gallantry and as
the Color Sergeant and Sergeants of the line
do not desire the position, it is conferred
upon him as a special mark of com-
mendation.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully Your obedient
W. J. Foster capt.
commanding

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Apr 28: Promoted to the rank of Ensign.

³ <https://www.fold3.com/image/58849163>

Nov 7:

W. A. Martin
1st Lt. Ensign 65 Regt Ga
Appears on a
Report
of Staff Officers and Acting Staff Officers serving
in Cheatham's Corps, Army of Tenn.
Report dated *Tusculum, Ala*
Nov. 7, 1864
Date of appointment *Apr. 28, 1864*
Date of assignment *Apr. 28, 1864*
Authority of assignment *War Dept*
Remarks: *Gist's Brigade*

Nov 30: The 65th GA Infantry fought at the Battle of Franklin. They were part of Gen. Gist's brigade in Gen. John Brown's division. Gen. Gist led his brigade towards the entrenched Federal lines and had to maneuver through a thicket of locust trees to the southwest of the Carter House. Gen. Gist was mortally wounded and died that night. Ensign William A. Martin was the color bearer for the 65th GA Infantry and he was killed in action. He was buried on the battlefield.

1866 After the war, a reburial team came to Franklin and exhumed the dead that had been buried across the battlefield. They reinterred over 1,400 men at Carnton. Ensign Martin was reburied in the GA Section, grave 53.

⁴ <https://www.fold3.com/image/58849157>



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⁵ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6571117/william-allen-martin>