

# Marilyn Marie Wilcox Traver

## Elkhorn, Wisconsin

Marilyn is the Great Granddaughter of

## Franklin Wilcox

### Co. K, 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry and Co. D, 38<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry

Franklin was born in Palestine, Dole, Ohio on Dec 21, 1840 to William L. Wilcox and Phylura Randall Wilcox, the fifth of nine children. When just a teen he moved with his father, William and the family from Ohio to Rutland, Jefferson Co, New York. Then later they moved back to Ohio in Dark County, and again back to New York to Rutland to take care of William's ailing father. In 1855 they moved to Wisconsin after William's father died. The family tried to make a living in the Wisconsin Dells area but the land was poor and was unable to sustain the family, so they pulled up roots and moved further north to Juneau County. The Lemonweir area seemed to have very fertile land and was exactly what they were looking for so they settled down there to farm.



Being a very patriotic man, Franklin joined the army mustering in with Co. K, Regiment 6, The Iron Brigade, at Madison, WI, under General Rufus Dawes, on July 16, 1861.

Having been involved in several battles, the Battle of Cedar Mountain August 9; Pope's Campaign in Northern Virginia August 16-September 2; Fords of the Rappahannock August 21-23; Action at Gainesville August 28; Battles of Groveton August 29; Bull Run August 30; Chantilly, September 1 (Reserve); Maryland Campaign September 6-22; and Battles of South Mountain, Md., September 14, he was injured at South Mountain, Md, where he was shot in the right thigh on April 22, 1863. The bullet ricocheted out but he was released from service 7 days later because of the wound.

It was almost one year later, after he healed from the wound, that he rejoined the army and went into Co. E, 38th Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry. He mustered in April 15, 1864, then was attached to Casey's Provisional Brigade, 22nd Army Corps, May, 1864; 1st Brigade, 3rd Division, 9th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to September, 1864; and 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 9th Army Corps, to July, 1865 and was mustered out July 26, 1865 at the end of the war. The regiment was then disbanded. Franklin suffered with dysentery during this time in the service and he had problems with it all his life.

Franklin then went home to help with the farming until he married and had his own place. He married Ellen Louise Conrad on Oct 1, 1865 in Mauston, Wisconsin a year after he was released from the service. They had 4 children, Jesse, Warren (my grandfather), Arthur and Celia. He was widowed in 1915.

For a few years he was Justice of the peace for Juneau County and was also Town clerk with duties of enumerator for the Town of Lemonweir July 1885 of the state census. Per his obit, he belonged to the Northern Light Lodge, #81, F & A.M., was a member of the Charter, Council and the Eastern Star, a member of the G.A.R., and member of the State Beekeepers Assn. serving as the president. For a number of years he served as county poor commissioner. During his early years, Franklin taught for 12 years in the school near his home. He was one of the first to use the modern methods to farming and was one of the most successful farmers of Juneau County. Franklin died of old age April 22, 1930 and is interred at Mauston Cemetery beside his wife.

