

Company G, 120th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

SPITZER, John* 22 Aug 1862

John, age 18, is listed in the Roster of Ohio Soldiers 1861-66 volume 8, page 262 as a private. John died 31 Mar 1863 at Milliken's Bend, Louisiana. The Roll of Honor in the back of the Roster book lists John Spitzer as being buried at Vicksburg, Miss.

Father: John SPITZER

Mother: Catherine ????

Birth: <1844> PA

Marriage: no widow

Death: 31 Mar 1863 at Milliken's Bend, LA

Cemetery: Vicksburg, MS [not listed] Probably buried there as an unknown.

Pension index: John A. Spitzer, Co G 120th OVI, mother Catharine A. Spitzer filed for his pension 8 Dec 1863, Application 40330, Certificate 89179.

Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865: J. A. SPITZER, Private, Co G 120th OH Inf., died 31 Mar 1863 at Hospital Millikens Bend LA. Cause: chronic diarrhoea.

Not on Burial Registers, Military Posts and National Cemeteries, 1862-1960

Not on National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962

1850 Census, Wayne County OH, Chippewa Twp., Dwelling 243, Family 251: John Spitzer (30), a farmer, listed with Cath (Catherine 29), Jno [John] age 5 PA, Abraham, age 3 PA, Jacob, age 1 PA. All born in PA.

1860 census Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH page 368: John Spitzer (40 PA) a carpenter, Catherine (41 PA), John (16 PA) lists occupation as "none", he is in school, George (12 PA), Mary E (6 OH).

Tree at Ancestry.com say that the soldier's grandparents were John and Susan:

1860 Census, Dublin, Huntingdon Co PA, Dwelling 72, Family 69: John SPITZER, age 67 PA, Gentleman; Susan, age 69 PA; Mary, age 25 PA. [Next to Dwelling 73, Family 70: Henry SPITZER age 41 PA, farmer; Catharine, age 41 PA; Daniel C, age 13 PA; John R, age 10 PA; David H, age 8 PA; Hannah C. FOUST, age 16 PA; Andrew WELLCOSE?, age 13 PA; Amanda PARKER, age 23 PA.

Father, John, deserted his wife and family and may have gone to California. See Pension papers below.

Wooster Republican, 1 Jan 1863: Listed John SPITZER's residence as Chippewa.

mother, 1870 Census, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 186, Family 194: Catherine SPITZER, age 51 PA; Mary E, age 17 OH, teaching school. brother: 1870 Census, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 281, Family 291: Abraham SPITZER, age 23 PA, farmer; Eliza, age 22 OH; Mary A, age 2 OH; George, age 9 months OH, born October; Mary DONER, age 66 OH.

In 1880 soldier John Spitzer's mother Catherine [spelled Catheine in the census], age 61, was living with W.O. Hershey and his wife Mary E. Hershey and family in Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH. She is listed as the mother-in-law of W.O. Hershey. So W.O. must be the husband of the soldier's sister, Mary E., listed in the 1860 census above.

1880 Census, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co OH, Dwelling 25, Family 27: W. O. HERSHEY, age 30 OH, miller, father born PA, mother born OH; Mary E. wife, age 27 OH, parents born PA; Elsie M, daughter, age 6 OH; Benjamin F, son, age 4 OH; George L, son, age 2 OH; Catherine SPITZER, mother in law, age 61 PA, parents born PA.

Not found in 1890 Veterans Schedule.

Mother, [Catharina Spitzer](#), wife of John Spitzer, is buried Easton Memorial Cemetery, Chippewa Twp, Wayne Co...died 11 May 1896.

Pension at fold3.com:

John A. SPITZER, Co G, died at Van Buren Hospital, Milliken's Bend Miss/LA on 31 Mar 1863 of chronic diarrhoea. He left neither widow nor child.

Catherine Ann SPITZER mother of John A. SPITZER.....her post office was Easton OH. Her husband "abandoned her in 1849, that soldier contributed to her support by giving her his wages - that in 1861 he gave for her support \$40, and after enlistment \$15."

3 Dec 1863 affidavit by Catherine Ann SPITZER: "That she is the wife of John SPITZER who for the last five years has abandoned his family and has contributed nothing to the support of applicant and family since that time. that she has not heard by letter or report from said John Spitzer. that she cannot say that he is dead or living."

1866 affidavit by Daniel SPTIZER, brother of soldier's father John: "John Spitzer the husband of applicant [Catherine] deserted his family for the last eight years passed..." When the husband left, Catharine was left with "household goods and a house and lot in the Valleey of Slankerville Wayne Co O. (P. O. Easton) in which applicant resides, which is worth and was worth at his desersion of his family the sum of \$500...."

Affidavit dated 20 June 1866 of Mary A STAHL and T. J. McELHENIE, residents of Wayne Co and neighbors of Catharine Spitzer: "that she the said Catharine Spitzer was wholly dependent upon her sons for her support; that the said John A Spitzer deceased was the oldest of three sons, upon whom she mostly depended for her support. that the husband of the said Catharine Spitzer and father of the said John A Spitzer deceased is probably still living, but long since abandoned the support of his family; that the said husband and father went to California in the month of March 1859, seven years ago, during which time the said Catharine Spitzer has not heard from her said husband except during the first year of his absence - And that her said husband has never sent her any money during the whole time of his absence, but has wholly abandoned the support and care of his family...."

Research by Susie Holderfield
2001-2016
120researcher@gmail.com