

PRIVATE JOHN HENRY GRAF

Co. I, 50th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry

Cheryl Hoeth's Great Great Great Grandfather

John was born in 1821 as Johann Henrich Graf to Johann Jacob Graf and Magdalena (Wagner) Graf in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. He married Anna Sophia Arndt about 1855. In 1856 they had their first child in Benton, Iowa. On February 1, 1865 John enlisted in the 50th Wisconsin Infantry, Company I. Anna tended the farm and cared for 5 children with the 6th child on its way while John served the Union.

The 50th Wisconsin was organized at Camp Randall in Madison, Wisconsin and mustered into federal service between March and April 1865. Leaving Madison, they arrived at St. Louis, Missouri, where they were assigned quarters at Benton Barracks.

Private John Graf was mustered out on June 3, 1865.

Post Civil War, John and his family moved to Cottage Grove, Wisconsin where they continued to farm. John and Anna had 5 additional children (10 total). John died on November 10, 1891 in McFarland, Wisconsin at the age of 70.

