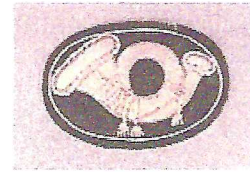
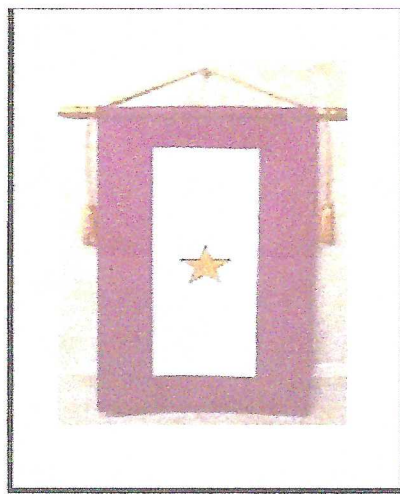


47th PA Infantry Regimental Colors



Union Infantry Insignia

Joseph Stephen
Private U.S. Army
2 October 1862 – 19 October 1864

Joseph was born circa 1844 in Lower Macungie Township. He worked as a farmer before he enlisted in the Union Army. He enlisted in Allentown, Pennsylvania, as a Private on 2 October 1862 and was assigned to Company I, 47th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment. The 47th Regiment had been formed and assembled at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, a year prior to Joseph's enlistment and had been deployed to Fort Ethan Allen near McLean, Virginia; Fort Taylor at Key West, Florida; and Hilton Head, South Carolina, where they performed picket duty until October 1862. Joseph apparently joined the Regiment at Hilton Head. During October, the Regiment boarded transport ships at Beaufort, South Carolina, bound for Mackey's Point, South Carolina, where they disembarked. From there they marched to the Village of Pocotaligo, which was less than ten miles distant, where they were to burn the railroad bridge and destroy as much railroad track as possible. They engaged the Confederates there on 21–23 October 1862. The Confederates rushed in reinforcements and, as night fell on October 23, the Union Commander ordered a retreat. They re-embarked at Mackay's Point on the transport ships and returned to Beaufort. They remained at Beaufort until 15 November 1862, when they returned to Key West, with Company I occupying Fort Taylor with five other companies in the Regiment. They remained in garrison at Fort Taylor until 25 February, 1864, when they moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, and were attached to 2nd Brigade, Provisional Division, under the Army of the Shenandoah. From there they participated in the Red River Campaign in Louisiana from the period 10 March to 22 May 1864 at the Battles of Sabine Cross Roads at Mansfield on 8 April 1864; Pleasant Hill on 9 April; Monett's Ferry, Cane River Crossing on 23 April; Morganza on 13 May; and Mansura on 16 May. They then returned to New Orleans where they remained until 5 July 1864. They then returned to Washington, D.C., and from there took part in General Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign in Virginia. In that campaign they saw action at the Battle of Opequan at Winchester, Virginia, and Fisher's Hill, Virginia, on the 19th and 22nd of September 1864, respectively. On 19 October 1864 they engaged the Confederates again at the Battle of Cedar Creek in Virginia. After the battle of Cedar Creek Joseph was missing in action and was never found. In July 1865 he was declared killed in action on 19 October 1864 during the battle. Joseph's parents were **Zebulon Stephen** (27 March 1818 – 23 June 1892) and **Anna Caroline Rethler** (4 April 1826 – 7 March 1850).

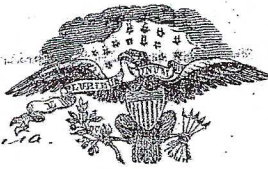


Painting of the Battle of Cedar Creek

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.

STATE OF

Pennsylvania.



TOWN OF

Allentown.

I, *Joseph Stephfen*, born in *Lehigh Co.*
in the State of *Pennsylvania*, aged *18* years,
and by occupation a *farmer*,
volunteered this *Second* day of *October*, 1862,

DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have

to serve as a **Soldier** in the **Army of the United States of America**, for the
period of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority: Do also
agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, estab-
lished by law for volunteers. And I, *Joseph Stephfen*, do
solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States**
of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all
their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the
orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers
appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Allentown Pa.*
this *2* day of *Oct.* 1862. } *Joseph Stephfen*
BEFORE *Wm. J. P.*

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above named Volunteer, agreeably to
the General Regulations of the Army, and that in my opinion he is free from all bodily defects and mental
infirmity, which would, in any way, disqualify him from performing the duties of a soldier.

Y. W. Willey
EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer, *Joseph Stephfen*,
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my
judgment and belief, he is of lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duly qualified to perform the duties
of an able-bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the Regulations which govern the recruiting service.
This soldier has *Grey* eyes, *Brown* hair, *fair* complexion, is *5* *7* inches
high.

Wm. J. P.
Regiment of *Penn* Volunteers,
RECRUITING OFFICER.

Individual Report for Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Individual Summary: Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Sex: Male
Father: Zebulon Stephen
Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

Individual Facts:

Birth: Abt. 1847 in Lower Macungie, Lehigh, Pennsylvania, USA
Military: Bet. 02 Oct 1862–19 Oct 1864 in Civil War, Rank Private
Death: 19 Oct 1864 in Middletown, Virginia; KIA Battle of Cedar Creek
Burial: Aug 2015 in Saint Paul's UCC Cemetery; Remembrance Marker
Medical Condition: Grey eyes and brown hair
5 feet 7 inches
Military Service: Co. I 47th PA Infantry
Occupation: Farmer

Shared Facts: [unknown spouse]

[no facts]
Children [no children]

Notes:

Person Notes: Joseph enlisted as Joseph Stephfen. In his service record we can see his name changing to Joseph Stephens over time. Sometimes entered as Stephfen-Stephens.
Joseph was missing in action on 19 October 1864 in the Battle of Cedar Creek. Listed as missing or a prisoner of War. In July 1865 they declared that Joseph died in the Battle of Cedar Creek. We do not know where he is buried. The dead at Cedar Creek were first buried at the Cooley farm. They were later taken to the Winchester, VA National Cemetery. We think he is there buried as an UNKNOWN. The mustering out of the 47th Pa, July 1865 noted Joseph Stephen lost on 19 October 1864 at Battle of Cedar Creek.

Oct 1, 2014: after several visits to Cedar Creek this is what happened to the best of my knowledge. The 1st Division 2nd Brigade of the 19th Corps Commanded by General Stephen Thomas was not entrenched near Belle Grove, the Union far right. When the early morning attack started they moved from their position across the Valley Pike (RT 11) 200 hundred yards to the top of the heights. Led by the 8th Vermont, 160th New York, 12th Connecticut and 47th PA. While moving to their position, the men of the 8th Corps (Army of West Virginia) were pouring through their ranks and were in full retreat. To make things worst, the morning fog was very heavy. The Brigade fired blindly into the on coming Confederate army from the heights. The 47th on the extreme right started to have their flank turned and begone fighting in a semi circle with their line bent back to the right. As the Brigade withdrew from the heights, the Confederates now on the heights, fired down at them in the ravine. The new union black knapsacks made easy targets in the morning fog. This info from Ranger Jeff Driscoll on Friday September 5, 2014.

12-4-2014 After having a private tour of the battlefield with CCBF guide Patrick Kehoe new facts have come to light. The 47th PA was a reserve Brigade not entrenched near Belle Grove. They were up and ready to go on a reconnaissance. This was about 4 AM on 19 Oct 1864. After barely reaching the heights Evan's Georgians slammed into their front. Simultaneously a shower of canister and shrapnel from Simms's rebels, working Thoburn's captured guns. Then out of the mist on the right, Humphrey's Mississippi Brigade, Kershaw Division, pushing a swarm of Thoburn's refugees pell mell before them. The Thomas Brigade right flank

Individual Summary: Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Sex: Male

Father: Zebulon Stephen

Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

Notes:

was turned with the 47th PA line dissolved. SEE ATTACHED MEDIA.

Marker info: April Pedretti, 305 US Avenue, Culpeper VA 22701

Culpepper Veterans Administration

April.pedretti@VA.gov

1-540-825-0027

Veteran ID # 56106982

CANE RIVER, LA.

1864

OPEQUAN, VA. SEPT 13 1864

FISHERS HILL, VA. SEPT 22 1864

CEDAR CREEK, VA. OCT 19 1864



Key West Florida, Sept. 4th 1895
Co. I 41 Regt P.V.

My Dear father

By these
few lines I let you know
I am well at present. I hope
this few lines will find you in
the same state of good health.
And further I let you know
I don't know what the matter it is
I don't get no letter. I think
you don't want to write any more
if you don't want to write me
any more then say so then
you could expect to have any
more letters from me
you, write few months ago for
my likeness Now I got it taken
now you must give me an answer

Before I sented to you and
if ~~that~~ you dont give me
an answer then you cant have
it.

Now I must come to a close
With my news By hoping
soon an answer.

Written By

M^r John Joseph Stephen
Co^l & 4th Regt S.V.

Fort Taylor Key West Florida

J. Stephen

September 27 1863

Photo Album for Joseph John Stephen Jr.

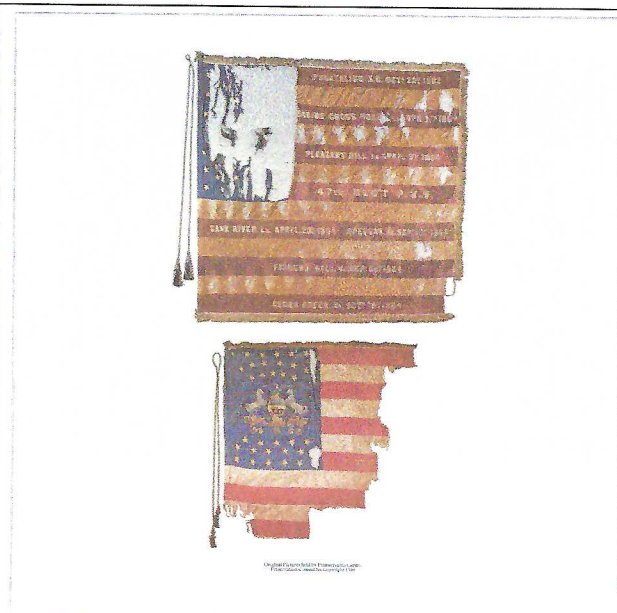
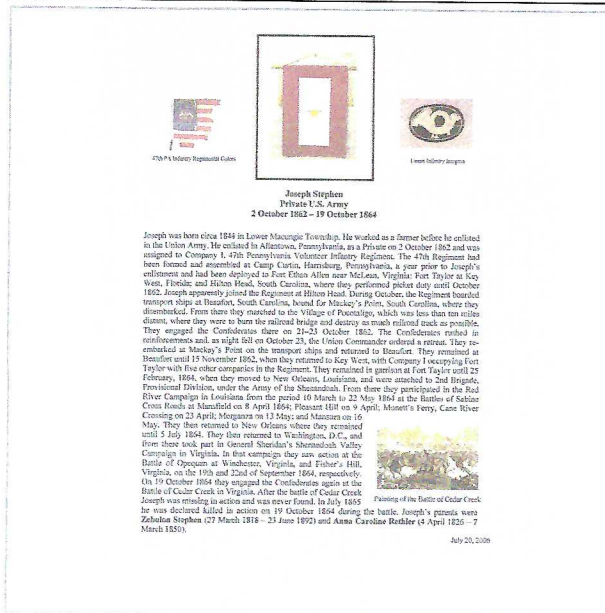
Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Birth: Abt. 1847
Death: 19 Oct 1864

Father: Zebulon Stephen
Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

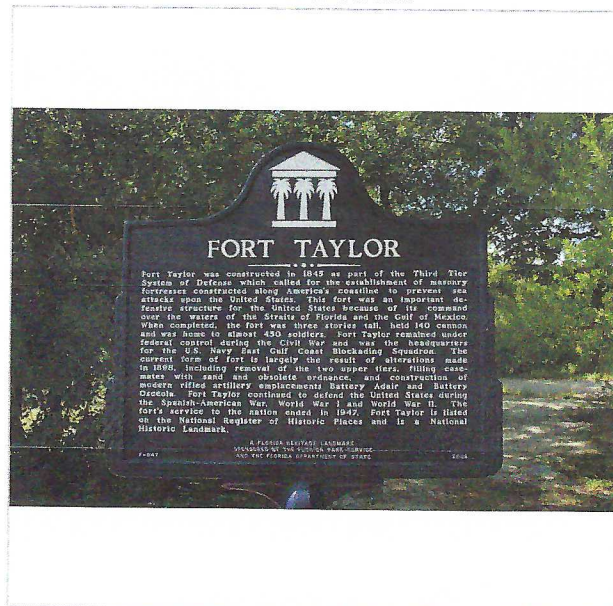
Marriage:

Spouse:

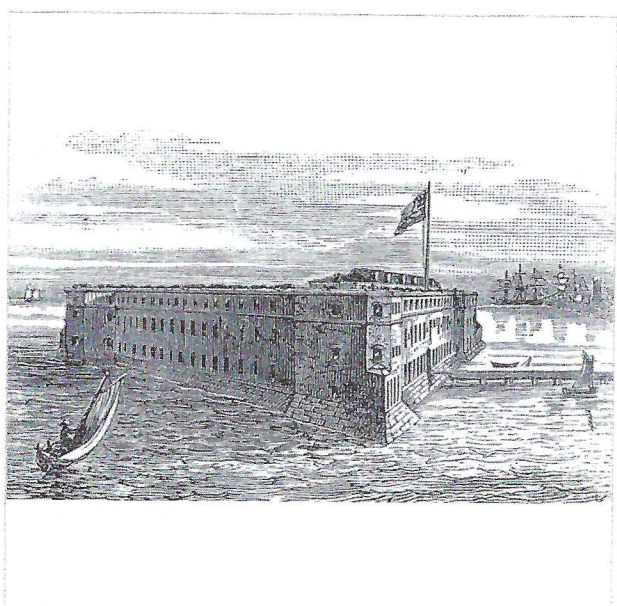


Lower Macungie Veterans Project
Jul 2006
Civil War Service

Battle Flag PA Vols 47th Regiment
3/20/2021 9:56:16 AM



Fort Taylor
1/25/2020 1:07:38 PM



Old Fort Taylor
3/18/2021 9:18:54 AM
Circa 1860

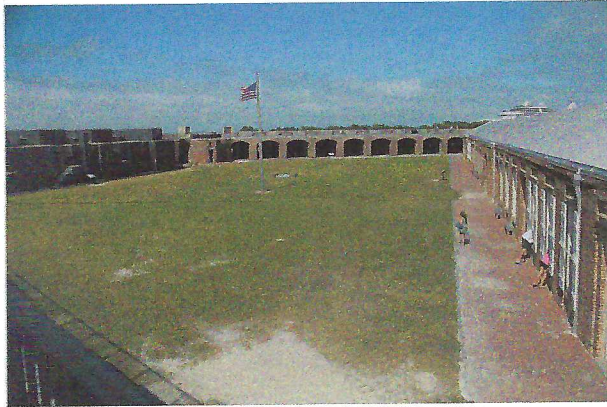
Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Birth: Abt. 1847
Death: 19 Oct 1864

Father: Zebulon Stephen
Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

Marriage:

Spouse:



Fort Taylor
1/25/2020 1:15:08 PM
About 2019



Fort Jefferson
3/18/2021 9:20:52 AM
Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas was about 70 miles from Fort Taylor. Joseph probably spent some time here.



Looking north from the SW end of Hayes's ridge toward the left of the Nineteenth Corps trenches (the open space at distance right) The Valley Pike ascends from Cedar Creek (left) toward Middletown (right). Many of Thorburn's and the 47th PA refugees were killed in the ravine (tree line below at foot of slope along the Pike)

47th Pa ravine
12/16/2014 12:07:04 PM



47th PA position on heights
11/20/2014 2:47:11 PM
47th was at the top right corner on the photo. Facing across the open field and bending back into the woods. They were fighting to their front and right side. Joseph was probably KIA either on the heights or during the retreat through the ravines.

Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Birth: Abt. 1847
Death: 19 Oct 1864

Marriage:


Father: Zebulon Stephen
Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

Spouse:

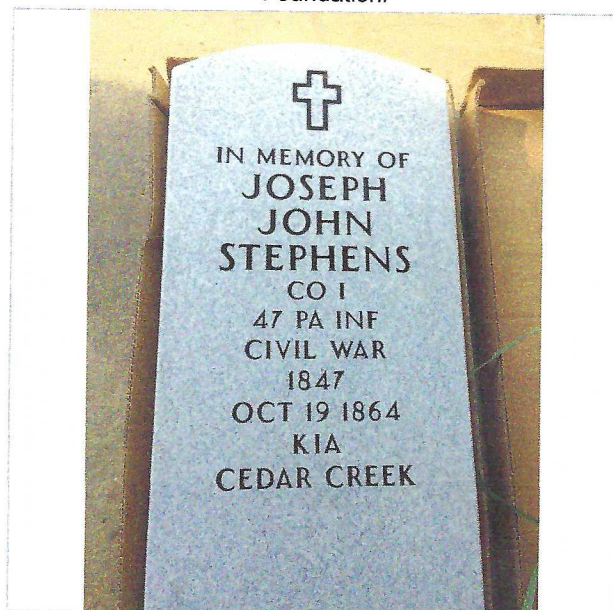


Crossing Route #11-The old valley pike - to the heights
12/4/2014 2:59:15 PM

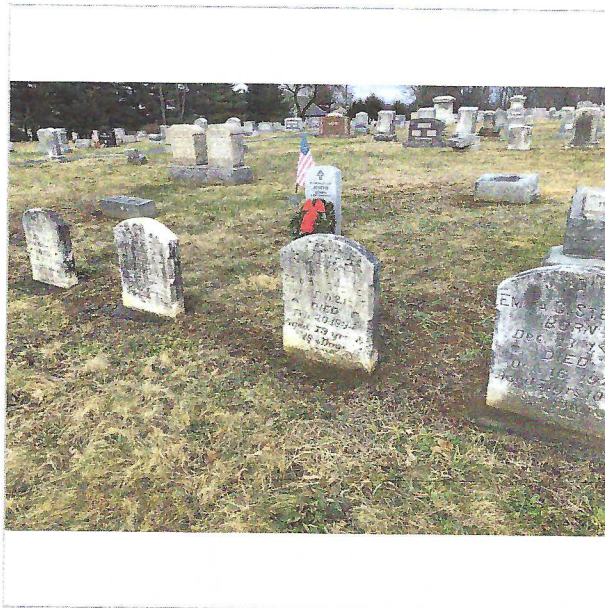
This shows the woods and deep ravines as the Brigade made their way to the heights. Many were killed and wounded as they retreated back down these revines. Guide Patrick Kehoe, President Cedar Creek Foundation.

 Department of Veterans Affairs VA FORM 10-1060		Form Approved GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27 Government Procurement Reg. No. 1-27-2 (Rev. 1-1-64)	
IMPORTANT: The names and the Occupancy Information on this form are for internal use only for all information required for registration. Height, printing color, and sex are required for all information required for registration. Do not include the name of the person who is not a member of the household.			
ON RELATED SERVICE IN KNOWN OR UNKNOWN STATUS			
1. NAME OF OCCUPANT TO BE REGISTERED (Last, first, middle initial) Joseph John		2. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day, year) 1-1-1942	
3. ADDRESS OF OCCUPANT (Street, city, state, zip) 1234 Main St. Springfield, IL 62761		4. OCCUPANT'S STATUS (a) <input type="checkbox"/> FULL-TIME (b) <input type="checkbox"/> PART-TIME (c) <input type="checkbox"/> SEASONAL (d) <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
5. OCCUPANT'S SERVICE INFORMATION (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (m) (n) (o) (p) (q) (r) (s) (t) (u) (v) (w) (x) (y) (z)			
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Joseph John Stephen Jr marker application
2/23/2020 10:21:24 AM
May 5, 2015



Marker Joseph John Stephen
6/8/2015 8:40:33 AM
Errol Steffy did the work to secure this marker.



Marker Joseph Stephen
1/4/2021 3:02:32 PM
This remembrance marker in his famiy's plot at Saint
Paul's union church, Trexlertown, PA

Joseph John Stephen Jr.

Birth: Abt. 1847
Death: 19 Oct 1864

Father: Zebulon Stephen
Mother: Anna Caroline Rethler

Marriage:

Spouse:

Notes
Joseph Stephens
Co. I
Died in battle
Oct, 19, 1864
Battle of Cedar Creek
VA, prob Cooley
Farm, Va.
Buried
Winchester National
Cemetery
Sections 7, 10, 17, 18, 25, 26
Rectangle near
Pennsylvania Monument

47th PA Dead Winchester cemetery
7/26/2013 10:20:11 AM



Winchester National Cemetery
9/5/2014 10:46:37 AM
Errol Steffy & Jerry Haasspent the day at Cedar Creek
and the cemetery.



Winchester National Cemetery
10/2/2016 12:27:47 PM
Joseph most likely is resting here among those only
known to GOD.