

Kentucky Freemason's Role in the Fight for Texas Independence



In 1836, at the request of Steve Austin, a Freemason, Kentuckians mobilized volunteers to enlist in the service of the Texas Army. Thomas Deye Owings, a prominent Kentucky Freemason and friend of Austin, coordinated, outfitted and sent an advance regiment to Texas. Many of these volunteers were Freemasons and assigned to the Texas command at Goliad. These troops, along with the other Texas soldiers they reinforced were intended to be sent to help defend the Alamo. An encounter with the Mexican army at Goliad led to their capture and subsequent massacre. Owings son was among those killed. Thomas Deye Owings traveled with 1,500 additional volunteers to Texas and joined forces with General Sam Houston arriving the the day after the Battle of San Jacinto where Houston had defeated Santa Anna. Owings learned that day the Alamo had fallen and his son had been killed at Goliad.



Santa Anna's surrender to Sam Houston following the Battle of San Jacinto - three weeks after the fall of the Alamo



Owing's volunteers remained in the service of the Texas Army until all Mexican troops withdrew from the new republic. All of the Freemasons killed in their service to Texas are buried in the Lone Star State.



Eight Kentuckians were killed at the Alamo

