

**Hometown:** Woodstock, Illinois  
**Cemetery:** Oakland Cemetery  
Woodstock, Illinois

**George Eckert**  
**95th Illinois Infantry Co. F**  
**d. 28 January 1923**  
**Woodstock, Illinois**



**Eckert grave site at Oakland Cemetery,  
Woodstock, Illinois**



## **GEORGE ECKERT DIED AT HIS HOME LAST SATURDAY**

**Grim Reaper Visits one of Woodstock's  
Biggest the Most Prominent  
Men Following Illness**

### **WAS VETERAN OF THE CIVIL WAR**

**Sheriff of McHenry County for Eight years;  
Alderman in Woodstock for Sixteen Years**

One of the truly big men of Woodstock, and a man whose entire life was good, big, strong and clean, entered upon the sleep which knows no waking last Saturday evening when George Eckert, for many years prominent in the affairs of the city, passed away at his home on Madison Street. Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. Sunderlin and Rev. Guthrie officiating jointly.

The funeral itself comprised a very impressive ceremony, as many old friends, several veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic and an escort from Peter Umathum Post No. 42, American Legion, gathered to pay their last respects to the deceased. The Woodstock male quartet rendered beautiful selections, among them "Nearer, My God, To Thee," and "Crossing the Bar." The remains of the old soldier were laid to rest in Oakland cemetery with full military honors, a firing squad giving its final salute to a departed brother, and taps being sounded over this last resting place.

George Eckert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Eckert was born in Alsace, Germany, February 24, 1841. The parents moved to the central part of

France later, and the family was living in paris when the father died. In 1849 the mother with her little family moved to New York, then on to Waukegan, later locating at Queen Anne Prairie. Although very young in years at the time of crossing the sea, Mr. Eckert always had a clear recollection of the old sailing vessel, which took thirty-six days to make the trip.

George began working at an early age for the salary of \$4.00 per month, and when the farm work was over in the fall, he had earned \$36. The winter months were spent in attendance at the public school, where he faithfully performed his duties as a student, and where he very soon acquired a very good common school education. His parents ere German Presbyterians, and when the family came to this county, continued in their faithful worship of God, and George was a conscientious believer in the teachings of the Bible, following the guiding hand of his good mother in this respect.

When at the age of 16, he was employed as a clerk in the store of A. W. Fuller & Col, and later with Fuller & Sherwood here, with whom he remained until the summer of 1862 when he enlisted as a private in Co. F, Ninety-Fifth Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered out in August, 1865 at the close of the civil war. Soon after his enlistment he was made sergeant, later being advanced to the post of orderly sergeant. Near the close of the war he received a commission as second lieutenant of his company and then made a first lieutenant, but was honorably discharged before the papers were served. During his term of service he took part with his regiment in many of the important battles of the campaign.

The war record of George Eckert is an enviable one. He did not lose a single day during his time in the army. he regiment won distinction at Vicksburg, in that awful assault where great numbers of our soldiers lay dead on the battle field before the surrender of the southern stronghold.

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**George Eckert Residence**  
**340 S. Madison St., Woodstock, IL**

He was in the Red River expedition; in the disastrous Guntown battle, where the stress and strain of the battle was so great and perilous that the general granted his men the privilege of retreating on the double quick. Just a short rest was allowed them and then they went on into the strenuous campaign of Sherman and Thomas. The records show that his regiment traveled 9,960 miles and during all that time he was never wounded, made prisoner or sent to a hospital. Later, he was for many years connected with the state guard, serving a long term as captain of Company G. He was a charter member of Woodstock Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and was for many years its commander, holding that office at the time of his death.

Not only on the battle field did George Eckert receive distinction. Men everywhere paid tribute to his sterling qualities by recognizing them and by conferring upon his honors which are not conferred upon every man. His public life is particularly interesting, because throughout a long period of service to the public his record was absolutely unstained by individual ambitions, and in every office which he held his one aim was to reform the greatest good for the greatest number. In 1886 he was elected sheriff of McHenry county faithfully performing his duties in this office, and at the end of his first term of four years he was reelected to fill this post. Later he was elected as alderman of this city, and for sixteen years he served in that capacity. he served two terms as collector for Dorr Township.

The youthful military and public life of this gentleman are all enviable; the record which he holds in all three is one which might well be striven for by everyone. But the characteristics which were so evident to all also applied in his home, and in his private life he was a manly man, a considerate, kind and thoughtful husband and father. A good neighbor, a devoted citizen of this commonwealth, and a worthy veteran of the G. A. R., the loss of George Eckert is keenly felt by every resident of this city.

Mr. Eckert was married twice, his first wife, originally Amy Green, bearing his two children, Willis, who died in infancy, and Georgia. Mr. Eckert then married Rhoda Green, his first wife's sister, who also passed away, leaving but Georgia and her father. Miss Georgia survives him, and her loss in the death of her father is mourned by the host of friends which are hers. Great praise is due this excellent lady for the tender care which she has shown in making her father's declining years pleasant and happy. The entire community joins with her in mourning his loss.

**Source: *Woodstock Sentinel*, 2 February 1923**