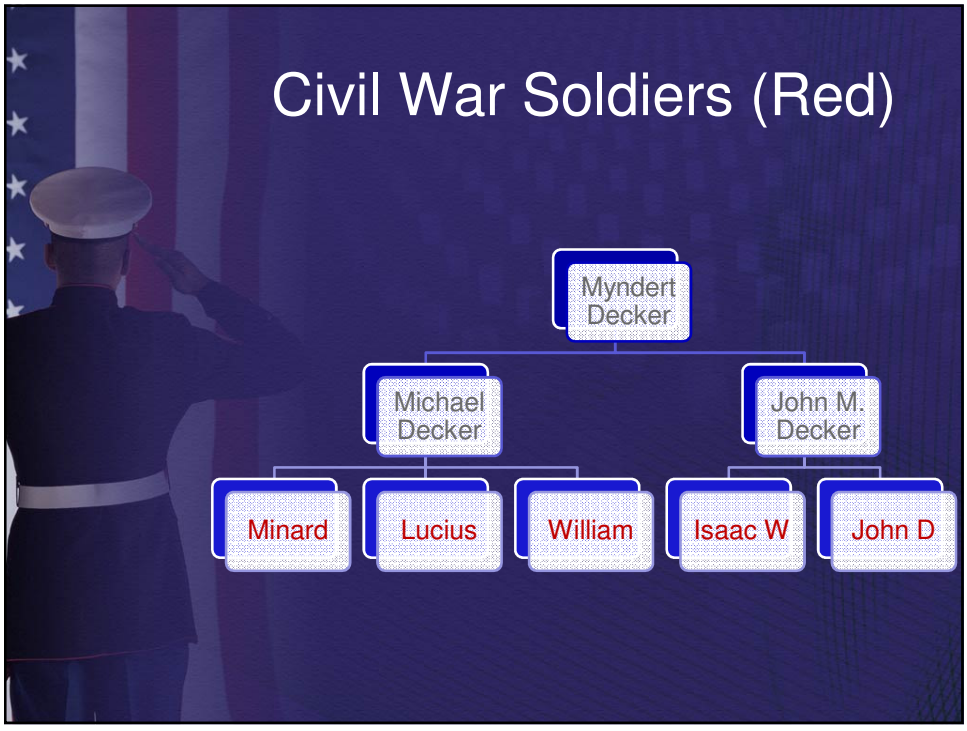
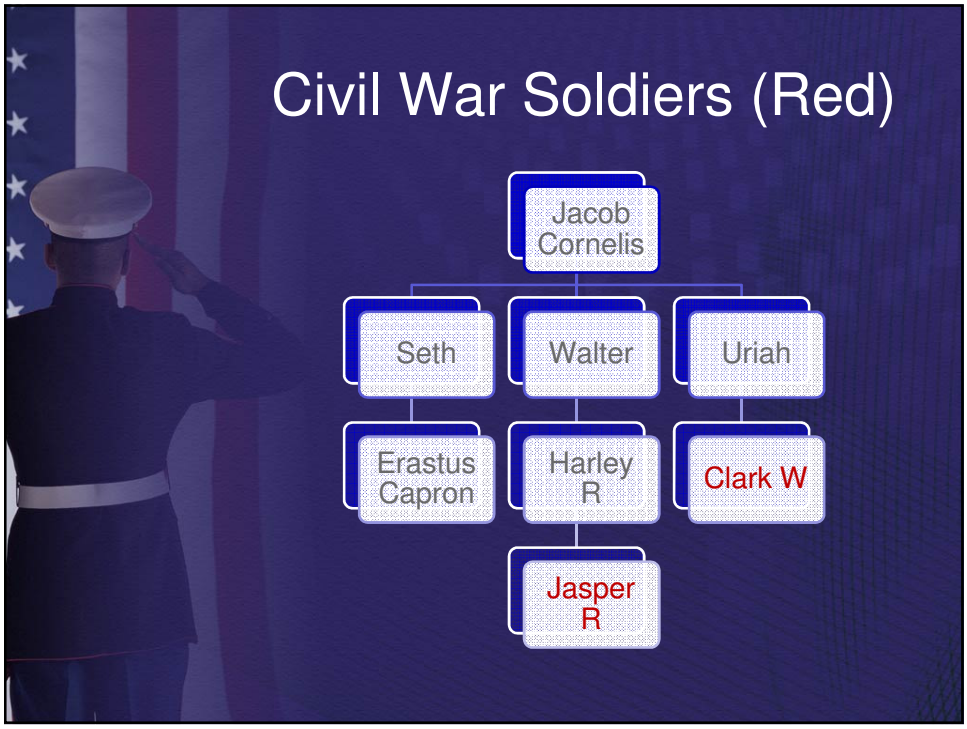
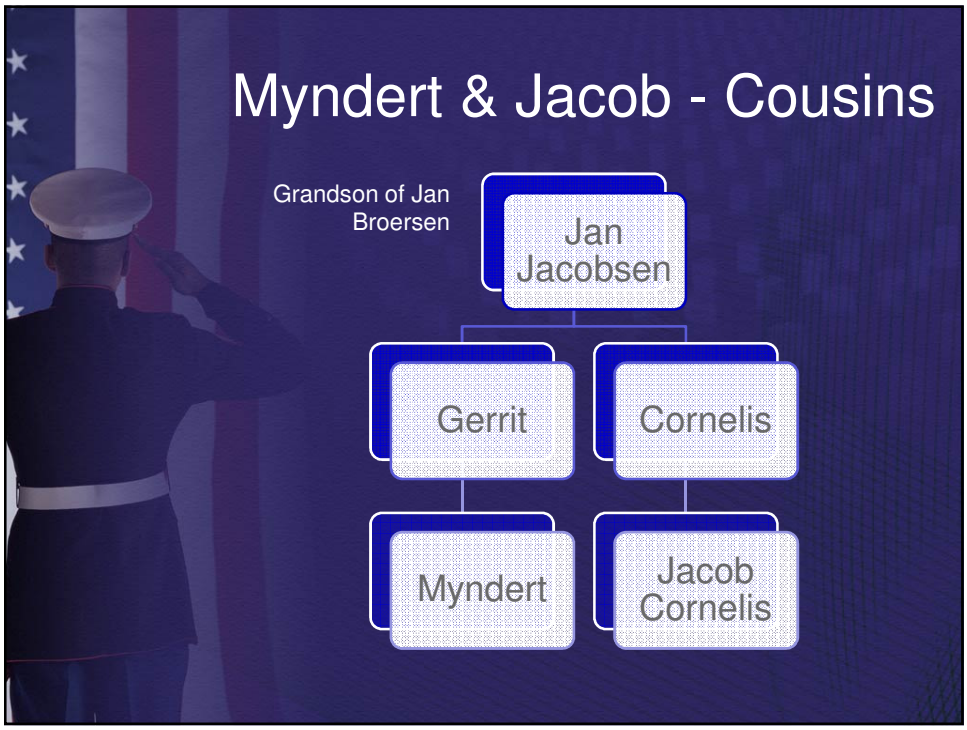
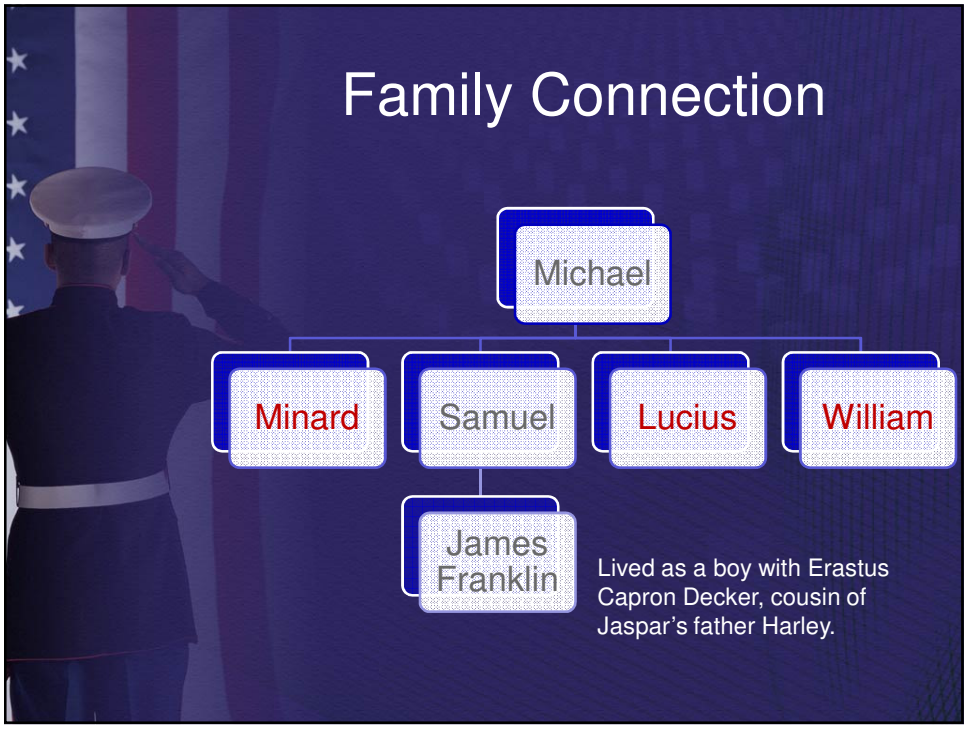
The Civil War:
The Lives and Service of an Extended Decker Family

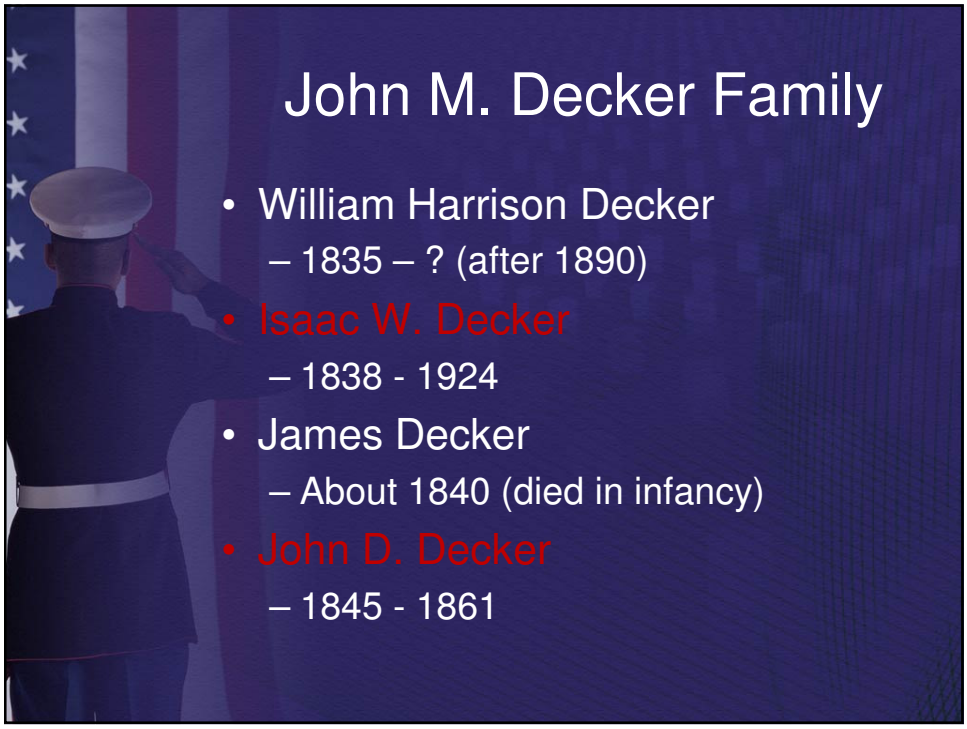

Civil War Soldiers (Red)
Myndert Decker
Michael Decker
John M. Decker
Minard
Lucius
William
Isaac W
John D

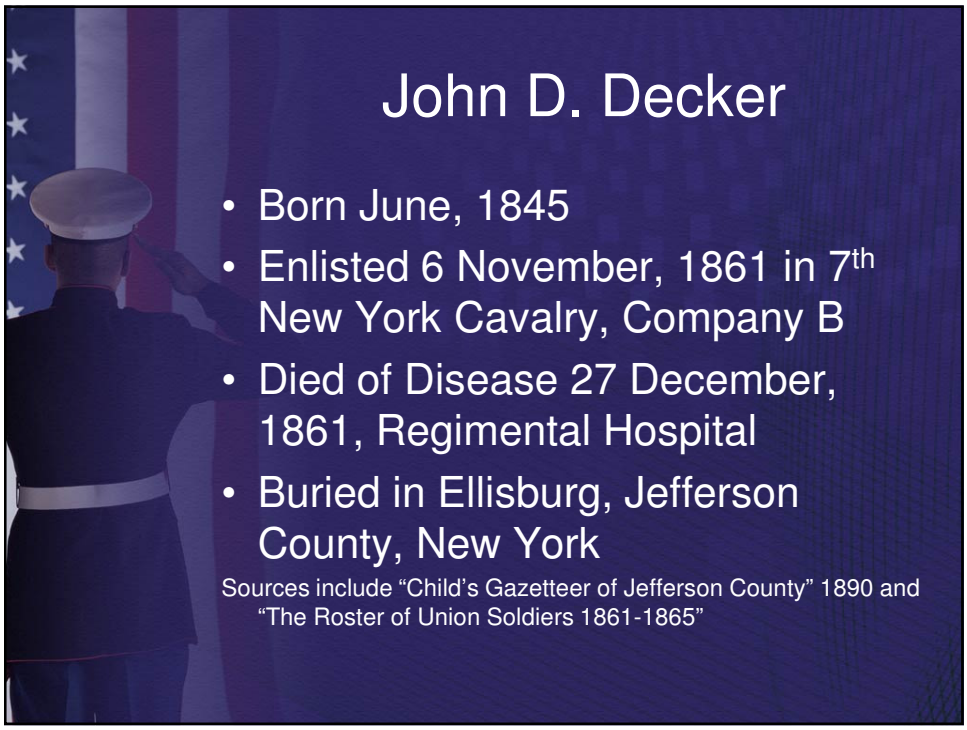

Civil War Soldiers (Red)
Jacob Cornelis
Seth
Walter
Uriah
Erastus Capron
Harley R
Clark W
Jasper R


Myndert & Jacob - Cousins
Grandson of Jan Broersen
Jan Jacobsen
Gerrit
Cornelis
Myndert
Jacob Cornelis


Family Connection
Michael
Minard
Samuel
Lucius
William
James Franklin
Lived as a boy with Erastus Capron Decker, cousin of Jaspar's father Harley.

Was Minard a brother?
• Enlisted in same regiment
• 1830 & 1840 census
• Sister Angeline counted in both households in 1860 census
• Will of Phillip Warner, lists Michael M. Decker
• Circumstantial, but highly suggestive


John M. Decker Family
• William Harrison Decker
– 1835 – ? (after 1890)
• Isaac W. Decker
– 1838 - 1924
• James Decker
– About 1840 (died in infancy)
• John D. Decker
– 1845 - 1861


John D. Decker
• Born June, 1845
• Enlisted 6 November, 1861 in 7th New York Cavalry, Company B
• Died of Disease 27 December, 1861, Regimental Hospital
• Buried in Ellisburg, Jefferson County, New York
Sources include “Child’s Gazetteer of Jefferson County” 1890 and “The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861-1865”

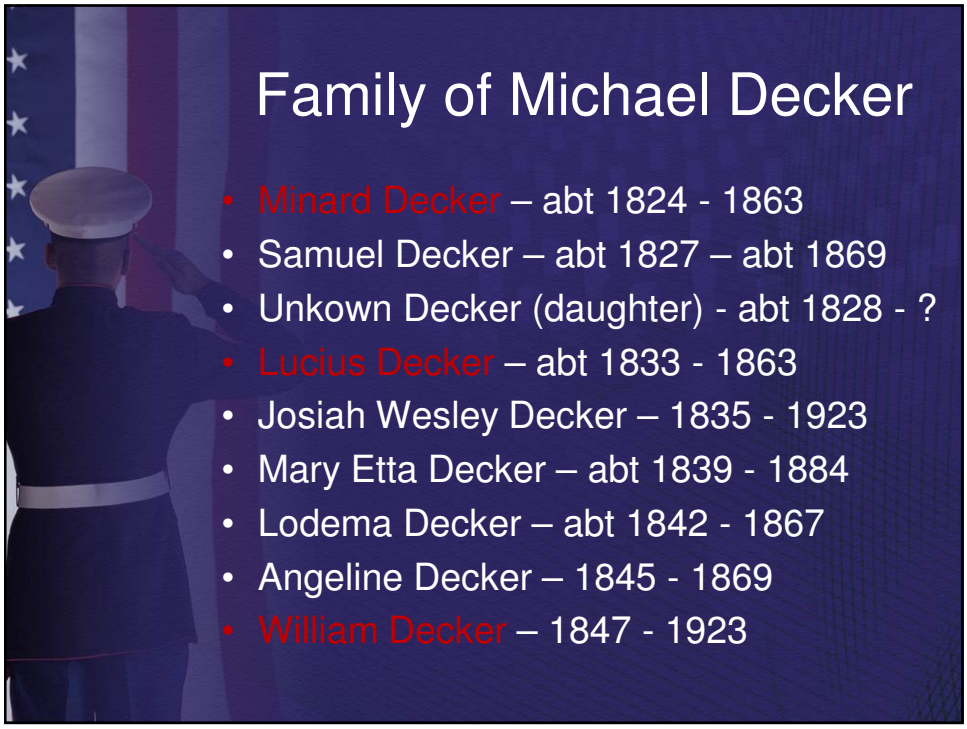
John D. Decker

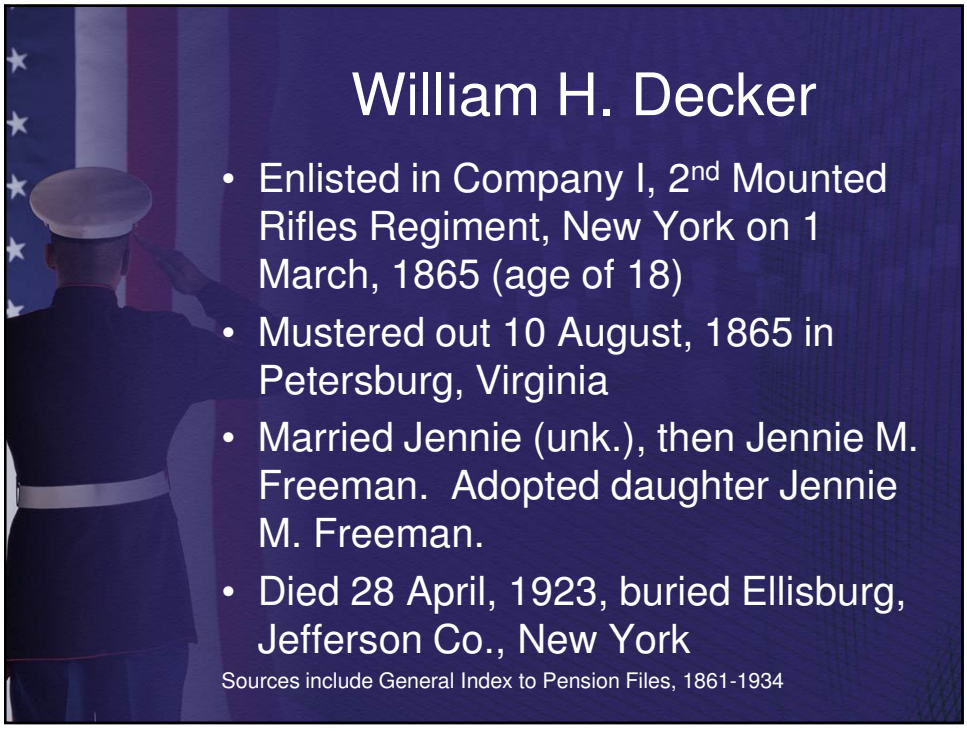
John D. Decker, died Dec. 29, 1861, aged 16 years, 6 mos.
(Picture courtesy of David Decker)

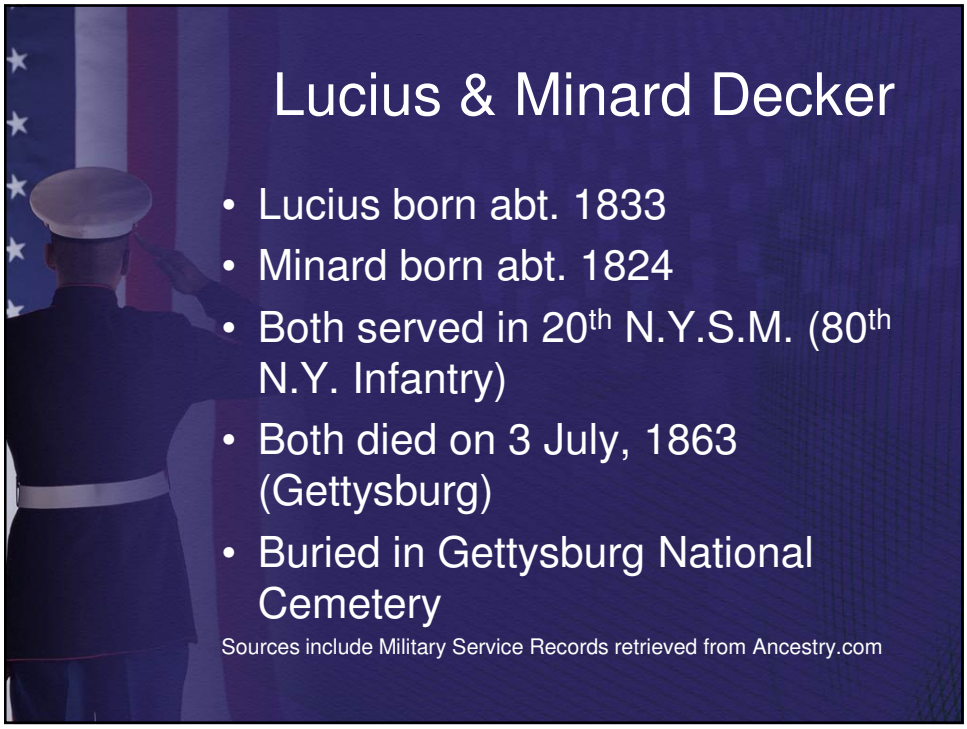
Isaac W. Decker

- Born 8 January, 1838
- Served 13 May, 1861 – 13 May, 1863, Company K, 24th Regiment, New York Volunteers
- Served as Commissioner of Highways, Jefferson Co., 1890
- Died 24 September, 1924, Soldier's Home, Steuben Co., New York

Sources include "Child's Gazetteer of Jefferson County" 1890 and "The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861-1865"


Family of Michael Decker
• Minard Decker – abt 1824 - 1863
• Samuel Decker – abt 1827 – abt 1869
• Unkown Decker (daughter) - abt 1828 - ?
• Lucius Decker – abt 1833 - 1863
• Josiah Wesley Decker – 1835 - 1923
• Mary Etta Decker – abt 1839 - 1884
• Lodema Decker – abt 1842 - 1867
• Angeline Decker – 1845 - 1869
• William Decker – 1847 - 1923

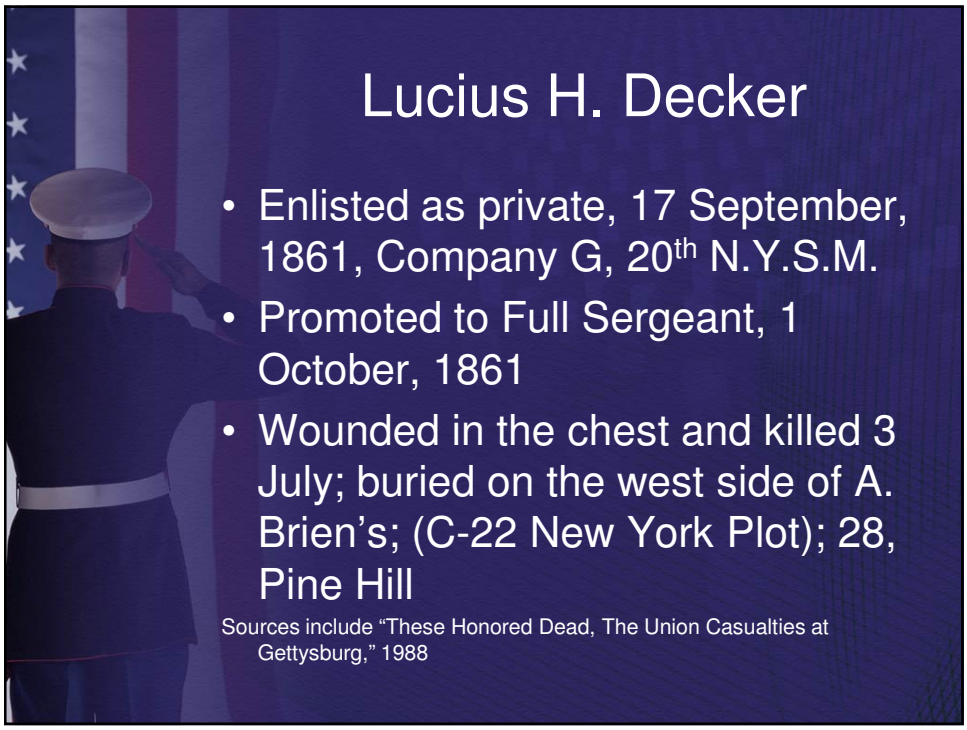

William H. Decker
• Enlisted in Company I, 2nd Mounted Rifles Regiment, New York on 1 March, 1865 (age of 18)
• Mustered out 10 August, 1865 in Petersburg, Virginia
• Married Jennie (unk.), then Jennie M. Freeman. Adopted daughter Jennie M. Freeman.
• Died 28 April, 1923, buried Ellisburg, Jefferson Co., New York
Sources include General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934



Lucius & Minard Decker

- Lucius born abt. 1833
- Minard born abt. 1824
- Both served in 20th N.Y.S.M. (80th N.Y. Infantry)
- Both died on 3 July, 1863 (Gettysburg)
- Buried in Gettysburg National Cemetery

Sources include Military Service Records retrieved from Ancestry.com



Lucius H. Decker

- Enlisted as private, 17 September, 1861, Company G, 20th N.Y.S.M.
- Promoted to Full Sergeant, 1 October, 1861
- Wounded in the chest and killed 3 July; buried on the west side of A. Brien's; (C-22 New York Plot); 28, Pine Hill

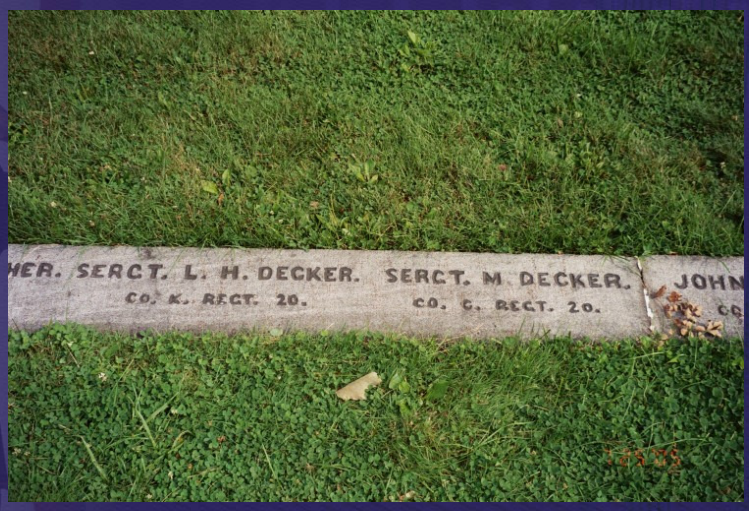
Sources include "These Honored Dead, The Union Casualties at Gettysburg," 1988

Minard Decker

- Enlisted 23 September, 1861, Company K, 20th N.Y.S.M.
- Promoted to Full Corporal, Full Sergeant
- Wounded 30 August, 1862, 2nd Bull Run, Virginia
- Wounded in the liver and killed 3 July; buried on the west side of A. Brien's; (C-21 New York Plot); 37, Kingston

Sources include "These Honored Dead, The Union Casualties at Gettysburg," 1988

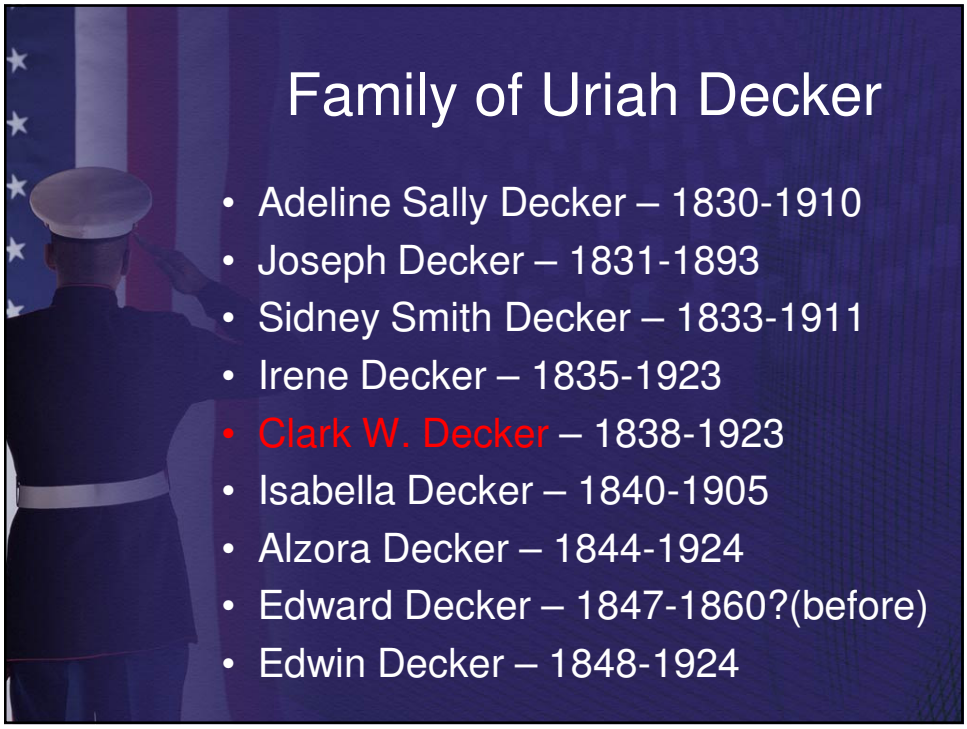
Gettysburg National Cemetery



Gettysburg – Ulster Guard

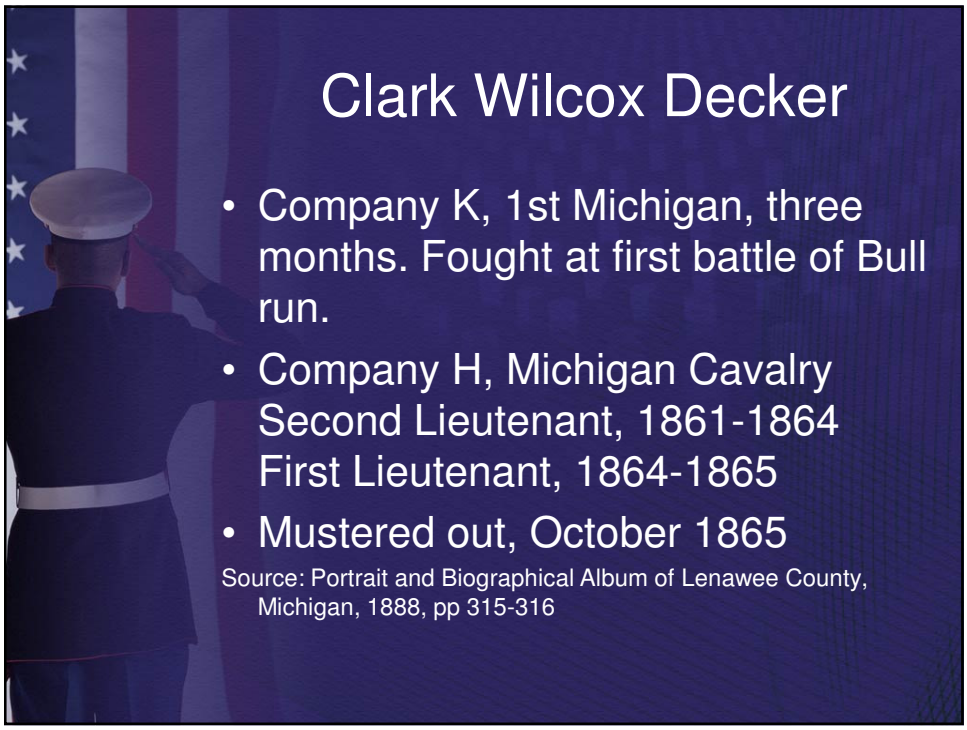
Gettysburg – Cemetery Ridge

Area to the right of the "Copse of Trees" and High Water Monument – target of Pickett's Charge



Family of Uriah Decker

- Adeline Sally Decker – 1830-1910
- Joseph Decker – 1831-1893
- Sidney Smith Decker – 1833-1911
- Irene Decker – 1835-1923
- Clark W. Decker – 1838-1923
- Isabella Decker – 1840-1905
- Alzora Decker – 1844-1924
- Edward Decker – 1847-1860?(before)
- Edwin Decker – 1848-1924



Clark Wilcox Decker

- Company K, 1st Michigan, three months. Fought at first battle of Bull run.
- Company H, Michigan Cavalry
  Second Lieutenant, 1861-1864
  First Lieutenant, 1864-1865
- Mustered out, October 1865

Source: Portrait and Biographical Album of Lenawee County, Michigan, 1888, pp 315-316

Clark Wilcox Decker

Clark Decker in Civil War Uniform, Wood-Decker Album
(Courtesy Virginia Loewe)

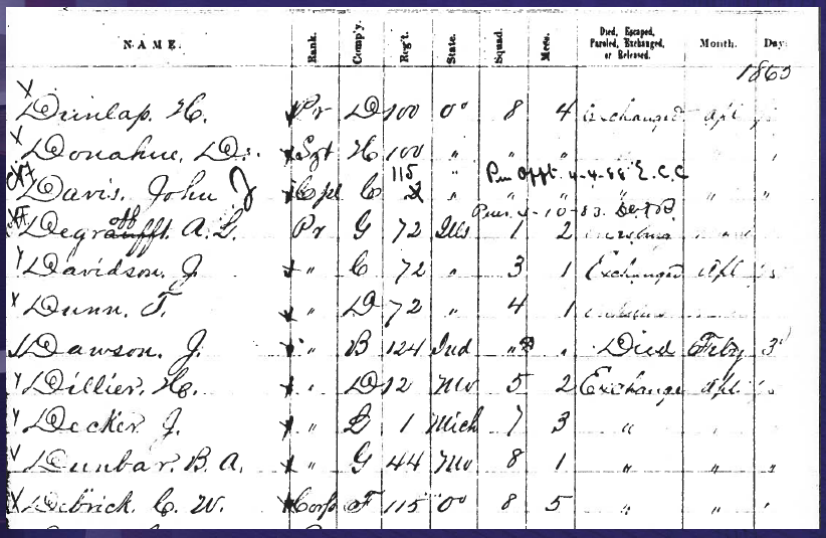
Family of Harley Decker

- Jasper R. Decker – 1848 – 1865
- Olive Decker – 1850 – 1851
- Orlando Decker – 1851 – 1908
- Harley S. Decker – 1854 – 1872
- Aurilla Decker – 1858 – 1890
- Douglas Decker – 1861 – unk.
- Capitola Decker – 1866 – 1915
- Elnora Decker – 1868 – unk.
- Ernest Decker – 1871 - 1935

Jasper R. Decker

- Served in Company L, 1st Engineers & Mechanics, Michigan
- Captured, held at Andersonville, Georgia; Released at end of war
- Victim of S.S. Sultana Disaster, 27 April, 1865
- Buried in Adrian, Lenawee Co., Michigan

Decker J. - Andersonville



NAME.	Rank.	Comp'y.	Reg't.	State.	Squad.	Mess.	Died, Escaped, Paroled, Exchanged, or Released.	Month.	Day.
									1865
Drinlap. H.	Pr	L	100	O"	8	4	Exchanged	April	
Donahue, Ds.	Sgt	H	100	"					
Davis, John J	Cpl	B	115 2	"	Pm Hosp.		4-4-65 E.C.C	"	"
Degraff A. L.	Pr	G	72	Ills	Pm.	2	10-8-3 Sent to		
Davidson. J.	"	C	72	"	3	1	Exchanged	April	5
Dunn. T.	"	L	72	"	4	1			
Dawson. J.	"	B	124	Ind	"	"	Died	Feby	3
Dillier. H.	"	D	12	Mich	5	2	Exchanged	April	
Decker J.	"	L	1	Mich	1	3	"	"	
Dunbar. B. A.	"	G	44	Mich	8	1	"	"	
Debrick. C. W.	Corp	F	115	O"	8	5	"	"	

Jasper & Olive (Sister)

1937 Record: Jasper P, son Marinda, d. Mar. 1865, age 18y 4m, Sultana Victim, Civil War
[West Adrian Cemetery, Adrian, Michigan]

S.S. Sultana

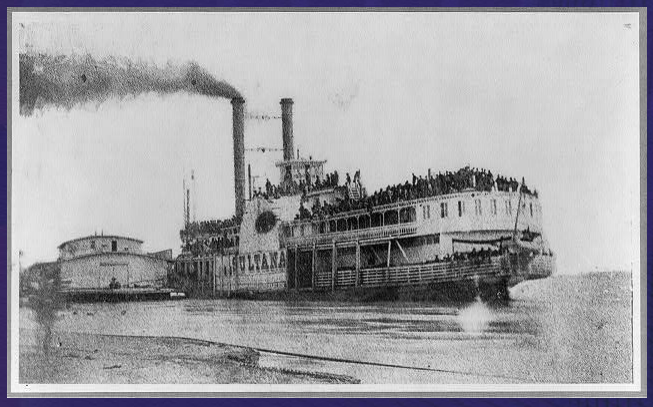
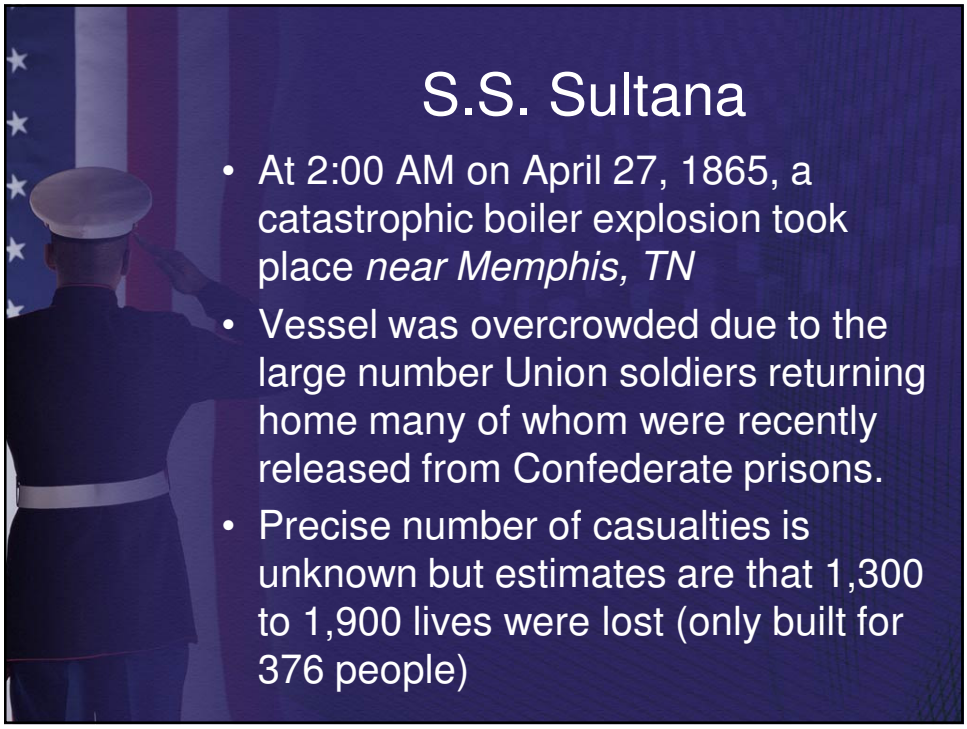
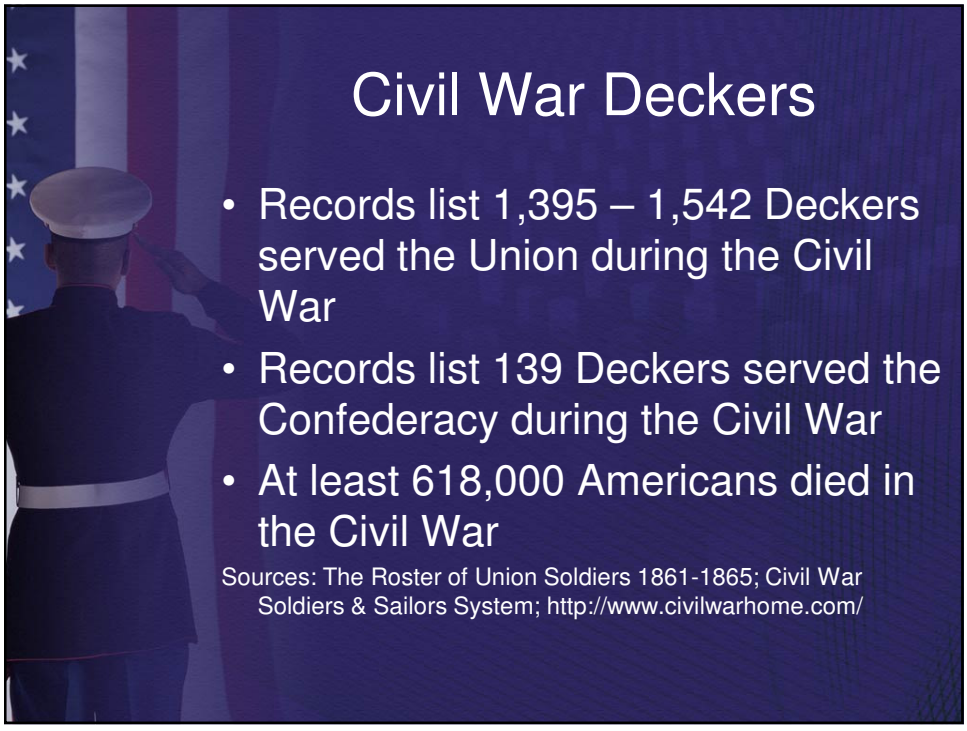


Image Source: Wikipedia 9/16/2010 referencing United States Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs division



S.S. Sultana

- At 2:00 AM on April 27, 1865, a catastrophic boiler explosion took place *near Memphis, TN*
- Vessel was overcrowded due to the large number Union soldiers returning home many of whom were recently released from Confederate prisons.
- Precise number of casualties is unknown but estimates are that 1,300 to 1,900 lives were lost (only built for 376 people)



Civil War Deckers

- Records list 1,395 – 1,542 Deckers served the Union during the Civil War
- Records list 139 Deckers served the Confederacy during the Civil War
- At least 618,000 Americans died in the Civil War

Sources: The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861-1865; Civil War Soldiers & Sailors System; http://www.civilwarhome.com/

Thank you
Questions
or
Comments?
80TH N.Y. INFANTRY.
1ST BRIG. 3D DIV. 1ST CORPS.