Jacob Lutes Biography

Jacob Caleb Lutes was born on February 19th, 1836 in Lafayette, Walker County Georgia. In 1850, he moved to Cherokee County Alabama with his father. Jacob enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1862, in Ashville Alabama, and was assigned to Company E, 19th Alabama. Company E (Cherokee Guards) was formed in Cherokee County Alabama and was organized with the 19th Alabama Infantry Regiment in Huntsville Alabama in August of 1861.

The 19th AL regiment was engaged at the Battle of Shiloh, and at the Battle of Stones River was engaged under Withers Division, Deas (Loomis') Brigade. Jacob, serving with the 19th AL was slightly wounded at Stones River. Recovering, he and his unit were engaged in subsequent major battles, including Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Atlanta.

Jacob continued to serve until the end of the war in 1865. Returning home, he began working and building as soon as he arrived, building a gristmill, blacksmith shop and coffin factory. He later built a sawmill and produced most of the lumber for his community. On November 7th, 1911 Jacob and his wife were found murdered in their home – probable cause was robbery, due to large sums of money reportedly kept in the home. He and his wife are buried in the Steele Cemetery, Steele Alabama.