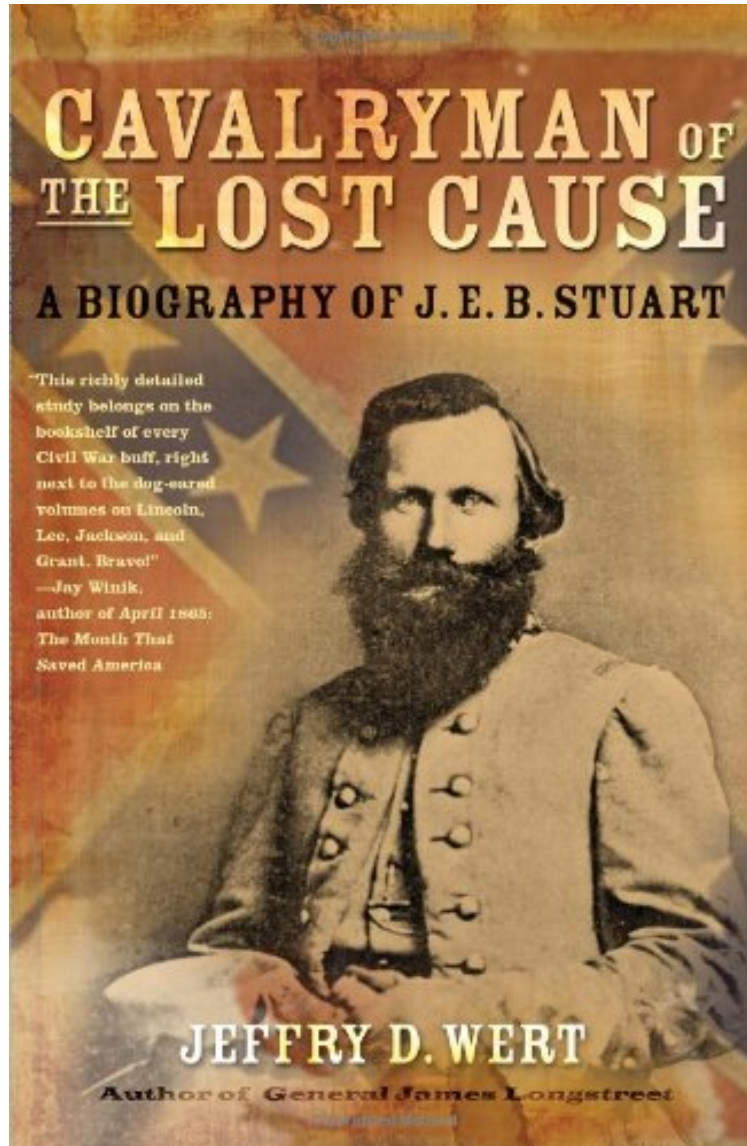


Cavalryman of the Lost Cause: A Biography of J. E. B. Stuart

Jeffry D. Wert

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#716169 in Books Jeffry D Wert 2009-09-22 2009-09-22 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.44 x 1.40 x 5.50l, 1.01 #File Name: 0743278240520 pages Cavalryman of the Lost Cause A Biography of J E B Stuart | File size: 34.Mb

Jeffry D. Wert : Cavalryman of the Lost Cause: A Biography of J. E. B. Stuart before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cavalryman of the Lost Cause: A Biography of J. E. B. Stuart:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Putting a human face on this Confederate cavalry general By Tom Betz There are many books about the life and military career of JEB Stuart, and Wert has done a good job of trying to

put a human face on this young man who died in May 1864. Gen. Stuart rose to fame from the rank of First Lieutenant when he resigned from the U.S. Cavalry to return to Virginia in 1861. His dramatic raids that took his troops around the U.S. Army of the Potomac made him famous both in the South and the North. These events have been discussed at length, and their actual military value may not have been as much as could have been accomplished, however, they were what fame is made of. Stuart received criticism for his performance at Gettysburg, but much of that actually belongs to Gen. R. Lee who made the decision - against his better judgment - to stand and fight on those three days in July 1863. As one who has been researching JEB Stuart I found this book to be a valuable resource and to give a different perspective on the young Virginian who led the Confederate cavalry for two busy years before his untimely death at Yellow Tavern. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I take a bite of issue with Huffard's statement that Wert strongly inferred that Stuart's love for the company and praise of young women went far beyond flirting. Wert does not say that at all, although in today's world people are programmed by our media to automatically feel there is fire where there is smoke. There may have been, but Wert is balanced, and without innuendo on this topic. It is a wonderful story of the military life of a great strategist and tactician, and does a superb job of describing this very complex man; with all of his human defects and strength. Since childhood he has been my favorite Civil War character, but I have always thought of him as pure and virtuous in all things. Wert paints a realistic picture of the man, and while I found myself being disappointed with some of his actions regarding colleagues I concluded that, at only 30 years of age, he had to be a genius tactician with a natural intuition regarding movement and placement of his forces to bring about the best result. There is no doubt of the extent of research done by Wert, it's tremendous, but at the same time, you are easily reading a novel-like story of Stuart's life. I haven't read the other biographies on Stuart, but after this one, I do not feel the need to. Congratulations Mr. Wert. I couldn't recommend this work any more. Read it. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Fantastic Read By T. Adams I got this book because I love learning about the Civil War (PC). I am reading all that I can about the South. My third generation great grandfather fought in the Laurel Brigade (12th VA Cavalry). I generally try to stay away from mainstream readings because they all say the same thing, "North was good, North wanted to free the slaves, South was bad, they wanted to keep slaves." In general, biographies stay away from that sort of thing. Anyway, this was a very pleasant read. I found myself captivated and having difficulty putting it down, especially when right in the heat of a battle. From other things I have read, I find this book to be accurate and it uses many of the same sources that many other authors use for various topics--many commonly used sources--not a whole lot of buried or hard to find stuff. I love learning about the Southern generals and view them in the highest respect. I read some of the other reviews and they indicate that several books give praise and can find no fault in Stuart (which I happen to like in my own little world), Wert doesn't paint Stuart as a God like other authors do, he is very respectful in how he handles situations. He puts the facts out there and lets you determine his character, which still remains in a positive light. He shares the good, the neutral and some of the negative about Stuart and his character. As far as I am concerned, he doesn't have any bias towards or against Stuart. It's a very clean and clear-cut book. Not a lot of fluff, but plenty of information and interesting facts.

Now in paperback, this major biography of J.E.B. Stuart—the first in two decades—uses newly available documents to draw the fullest, most accurate portrait of the legendary Confederate cavalry commander ever published. • Major figure of American history: James Ewell Brown Stuart was the South's most successful and most colorful cavalry commander during the Civil War. Like many who die young (Stuart was thirty-one when he succumbed to combat wounds), he has been romanticized and popularized. One of the best-known figures of the Civil War, J.E.B. Stuart is almost as important a figure in the Confederate pantheon as Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. • Most comprehensive biography to date: *Cavalryman of the Lost Cause* is based on manuscripts and unpublished letters as well as the latest Civil War scholarship. Stuart's childhood and family are scrutinized, as is his service in Kansas and on the frontier before the Civil War. The research in this biography makes it the authoritative work.

From Publishers Weekly Wert (The Sword of Lincoln) adds to his status as a top-ranking Civil War scholar in this excellent biography of the Confederacy's best-known cavalry general. Jeb Stuart's reputation has faded somewhat in recent years, particularly for his alleged failures during the Gettysburg campaign. Wert integrates comprehensive archival and printed sources to describe a man shaped by a zest for life, religious faith and devotion to duty, who from his youth sought achievement and recognition. Soldiering promised both. The initial dominance of Confederate cavalry in the east during the Civil War was a product of Stuart's skills as leader and organizer, trainer and tactician. Above all he was a master at reconnaissance and screening. His decision at Gettysburg to ride around the Union army instead of rejoining Robert E. Lee was a mistake. But its serious consequences were in good part due to Lee's dependence on his now-absent source of reconnaissance, and the Union cavalry's ability to learn from repeated defeat at Stuart's hands. Wert's biography goes far in restoring Stuart's claim to be the greatest cavalry officer ever foaled in

America. 8 pages of bw photos; maps. (Sept.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist A distinguished Civil War historian tackles the biography of J. E. B. Stuart, the controversial cavalry leader of the Army of Northern Virginia until his death in combat in 1864. Wert's thoughtful account of Stuart's role at Gettysburg eventuates in a balanced analysis of a well-conceived reconnaissance-in-force that was, alas, not too well executed. Otherwise, Wert finds Stuart deserving of high marks as a leader of light cavalry, and he otherwise presents Stuart as a thoroughly professional soldier, loyal to his men, his state, and the Confederacy, who enjoyed the role of the dashing cavalry leader. What is more, Stuart was, Wert shows, a faithful husband, a fond father, and deeply religious. This is a portrait of a Stuart more complex and, indeed, more attractive than either his friends or his enemies have painted in at least a generation. It deserves a prominent place beside Wert's other books in any respectable Civil War collection. --Roland Green "One of those rare, too often overlooked figures in the Civil War pantheon, Jeb Stuart was as irresistible as he was colorful, as contentious as he was fascinating. In this endlessly absorbing biography, Jeffrey Wert does him justice and then some. This richly detailed study belongs on the bookshelf of every Civil War buff, right next to the dog-eared volumes on Lincoln, Lee, Jackson, and Grant. Bravo!" -- Jay Winik, author of *April 1865: The Month That Saved America* and *The Great Upheaval: America and the Birth of the Modern World, 1788-1800*" Jeffrey D. Wert adds to his considerable reputation as a military historian of the Civil War with this engaging biography of the Confederacy's best and most famous cavalry officer. Jeb Stuart figured prominently in most of the Army of Northern Virginia's storied operations, and Wert does full justice to his striking successes while also exploring with a critical eye his controversial conduct during the Gettysburg Campaign. This book is the obvious place to begin any exploration of Stuart's life and career." -- Gary W. Gallagher, Nau Professor of History, University of Virginia, and author of *Lee and His Army in Confederate History*" This fresh look at the Confederacy's premier cavalryman offers a fast-paced and sure-footed narrative of Stuart's campaigns combined with fascinating information about the man and his family. Cavalryman of the Lost Cause is now the Jeb Stuart biography." -- George C. Rable, Charles Summersell Chair in Southern History, University of Alabama, and author of *Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg!*, winner of the Lincoln Prize "One of the Civil War's most popular historians has tackled one of its most memorable figures. Scrupulously avoiding the pitfalls of either blind worship or reckless iconoclasm, Jeffrey Wert recounts the successes and failures of this remarkable soldier in a masterful study that combines diligent research and fresh analysis with the prose of a gripping novel. A must for any bookshelf -- Blue or Gray." -- Joseph Pierro, editor of *The Maryland Campaign of September 1862: Ezra A. Carman's Definitive Study of the Union and Confederate Armies at Antietam*