

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Carolyn S. Quinlan

**SAMUEL T. GRIFFITH** was born on February 21, 1827. He was born in Marshall County, [West] Virginia to Elijah and Ann Griffith. He married Mary Jane Jones, daughter of Reverend Samuel and Elizabeth Jones, of Woodhill, [West] Marshall County. When the Civil War began, he moved to West Columbia, Mason County, [West] Virginia where he became a physician. He served as a delegate to the recalled session from Mason County to replace John Hall, who resigned.

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Odd Fellows and along with his family and his wife's family, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. On September 27, 1868, he died of a pulmonary affliction, as did his wife on November 4, 1869. They were survived by two sons: Waitman Thomas William Hoover Griffith, who became a school teacher in Marshall County and West Virginia Griffith, who married Eugene Weddle.

Source: Ambler, Charles H., Frances Haney Atwood and William B. Mathews, eds. *Debates and Proceedings of the First Constitutional Convention of West Virginia, (1861-1863)*. Huntington: Gentry Brothers.71-72.