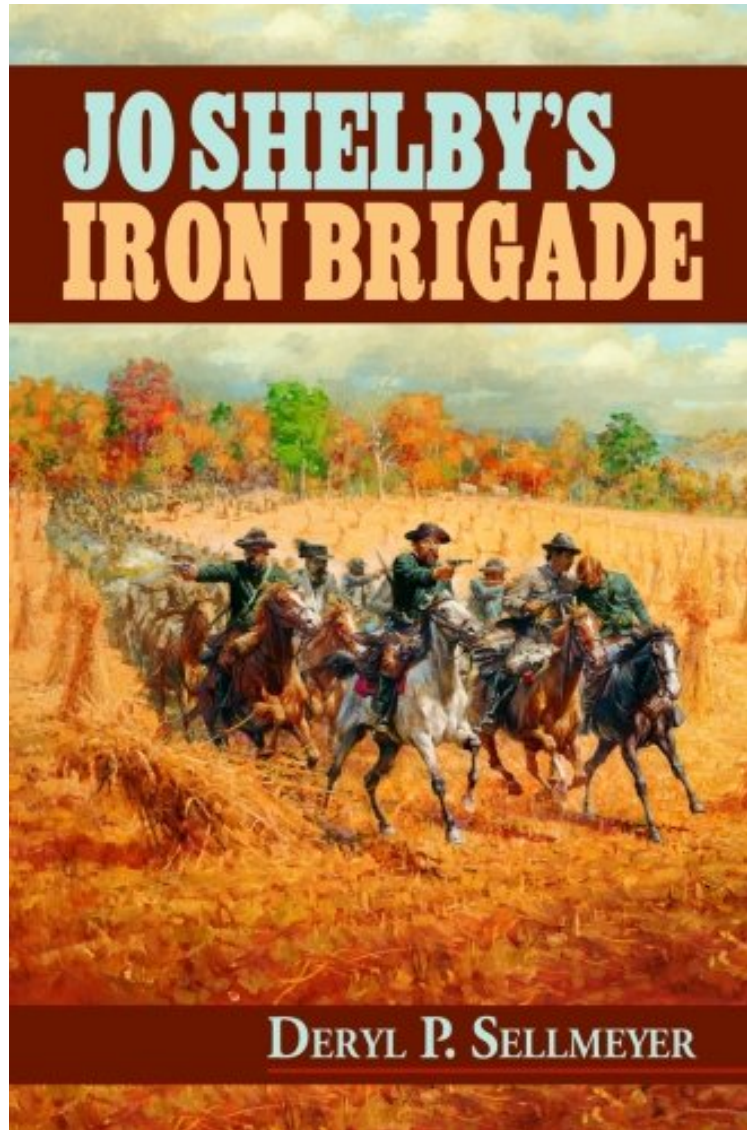


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Jo Shelby's Iron Brigade

Deryl Sellmeyer

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Deryl Sellmeyer : Jo Shelby's Iron Brigade before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jo Shelby's Iron Brigade:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Riveting Perspective By Brian Blake Outstanding! Sellmeyer's scholarly yet dramatic narrative not only brings Jo Shelby's world to life. The Confederacy's Iron Brigade and its officers and men are placed in historical context, giving a riveting perspective on politics and strategy in the fighting beyond the Mississippi River. We recommend this book highly to general readers and particularly to family historians,

such as ourselves, who seek to understand this dramatic but little-known theater of the War Between the States.⁵ of 6 people found the following review helpful. He should be studied for leadership skills

By JDCJo Shelby's life during the Civil War is very interestingly written about by Deryl P. Sellmeyer. Sellmeyer has done a very good accounting of the exploits that many are not aware unless you are a Civil War reader and some even may not know him well if they read Civil War history. What interest me besides the cavalry in the Civil War is the leadership abilities of those chosen to do just that, lead. Some do well and some are dismal failures i.e., Bragg, Fremont, Burnside, and Hood to name a few that come to mind. The author also gives a few insights about why the South fought the war and it was never all about slavery. If you would like to read about a principled man this is that sort of leader. He was not willing to set down his principles after Lee, Johnston, and Smith surrendered and made a futile attempt in Mexico to continue his rebellion. I believe this is the best and most detailed accurately portrayed book on Shelby. It was written in much detail of the accounts that took place under Shelby and his command. I believe those who have interest in the west of the Mississippi battles and campaigns will find this book of value

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book!

By Danny UrbanEnjoyed the book!

How Jo Shelby's troops grew into the greatest Confederate cavalry brigade west of the Mississippi. Jo Shelby's cavalry unit is considered by contemporary historians to have been one of the toughest cavalry units in the West. A descendant of one of Shelby's Brigade members, Deryl P. Sellmeyer offers an objective and even-handed view of this impressive military leader and his men. The author's decade-long research of Shelby's life and his principal officers is evident as he details the history of Shelby's Brigade from its origin in Missouri through the end of the Civil War and its eventual disbandment in Mexico.

From the PublisherHow Jo Shelby's troops grew into the greatest Confederate cavalry brigade west of the Mississippi.

From the Inside FlapWhen the Confederacy collapsed, Gen. Joseph Orville Shelby refused to surrender. The nucleus of Shelby's Brigade of the Confederate States Army began as a company in Missouri in 1861 and grew into the greatest Confederate cavalry brigade west of the Mississippi. This book follows its triumphs all the way to the crossing of a contingent of the brigade into Mexico at the end of the war.

A planter and rope manufacturer from Kentucky, Shelby operated entirely in the trans-Mississippi West. He served in the Missouri State Guard as a company commander at Carthage, Wilson's Creek, and Pea Ridge. He then returned to Missouri to raise a regiment. Shelby became a colonel in charge of one of John S. Marmaduke's mounted division brigades, fighting at Prairie Grove and Helena. He conducted a daring raid to the Missouri River in the fall of 1863, which earned him a promotion to brigadier general and the command of a division. Shelby's Brigade fought valiantly at the Battle of Westport, the Gettysburg of the West, and repeatedly saved Gen. Sterling Price's army from capture on the retreat south. While other soldiers were demoralized by hunger, disease, and the events of war, Shelby's Brigade conducted themselves with valor and integrity. After the war, they went their separate ways, but in later years many of the old veterans attended the brigade's annual reunions.

Shelby served in Kansas City as the United States marshal for western Missouri in 1893. In 1895, he was appointed commander of the United Confederate Veterans of Missouri. His funeral in 1897 drew four thousand mourners, a record for nineteenth-century Missouri.

A descendant of a Shelby's Brigade member, Deryl P. Sellmeyer offers an objective and evenhanded view of this impressive military leader and his men. The author's decades-long research of Shelby's life and his principal officers is evident as he details the history of the famous brigade.

Sellmeyer is a lifelong resident of the Kansas City, Missouri, area. He served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve from 1967 to 1972. A graduate of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, he was employed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from 1978 until his retirement in 2003.

From the Back CoverThe toughest, most accomplished cavalry brigade west of the Mississippi River was Gen. Jo Shelby's Iron Brigade. This factual, fully documented account traces the Confederate unit's history from its origin through the end of the Civil War. Free of romanticized exaggerations, this work is the most reliable historical source on the subject. Every march, camp, and battle that could be identified from source material is recorded in this story of leadership, brotherhood, and the American West.

Deryl P. Sellmeyer spent two decades researching the true story of the illustrious military unit in which his great-great-grandfather served as a private. He self-published a brief biography of his ancestor's Civil War service in his first book, *Saline County Soldier*. After he retired, Mr. Sellmeyer completely devoted his time to his research, and the story of Jo Shelby is the result. Sellmeyer is a lifelong resident of the Kansas City area.