



## Trevilian Station, June 11–12, 1864: Wade Hampton, Philip Sheridan and the Largest All-Cavalry Battle of the Civil War

*By Joseph W. McKinney*

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The first day's fighting saw dismounted Yankees and Rebels engaged at close range in dense forest. By day's end, Hampton had withdrawn to the west. Advancing the next morning, Sheridan found Hampton dug in behind hastily built fortifications and launched seven dismounted assaults, each repulsed with heavy casualties. As darkness fell, the Confederates counterattacked, driving the Union forces from the field.

Sheridan began his withdrawal that night, an ordeal for his men, the Union wounded and Confederate prisoners brought off the field and the hundreds of starved and exhausted horses that marked his retreat, killed to prevent their falling into Confederate hands.

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#### **About the Author**

Retired U.S. Army officer **Joseph W. McKinney** lives in Brandy Station, Virginia.

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