



## *Susannah Dickinson*

Because names were so often misspelled in the 1800's, Susanna' first name has been spelled Susan, Susanna, Susannah, and Suzannah plus her husband called her Susie (or was it Suzie). Her last name has been written as Dickenson, Dickinson and Dickerson. At her gravesite in Austin, there are three different spellings of her first name.

Susannah Dickinson was a young, illiterate housewife when her husband joined in the defense of The Alamo. She and her 18-month old daughter were inside the walls during the siege and the final assault by General Santa Anna's Mexican Army. Susannah and her daughter were two of the nine survivors at The Alamo.

General Santa Anna made her "The Messenger of The Alamo" by sending her and her daughter to Sam Houston in Gonzales with the message saying, "If you don't lay down your arms and surrender, I will do the same thing to you that I did to the men at The Alamo."

Susannah and her daughter returned to their house in Gonzales only to have it burned to the ground by the Texian Army, and then she and her daughter ran for their lives in the Runaway Scrape.

Susannah and her daughter returned to Texas after Texas won its independence.

A TEKS supportive Curriculum Guide for pre-and post-performance studies and activities is provided to teachers for visits from Susannah Dickinson.

Portrayed by Linda Sanders or LaJuanna Faught