



## *William Barret Travis*

William Barret Travis was born on a farm in South Carolina in 1809, but his family moved to a farm in Alabama nine years later where he began his schooling. At the age of 16, he was sent to a school in Claiborne, a major Alabama commercial center. When he arrived there, he decided he wanted to be a lawyer, so he starting studying law. Two years later, he became a part-time school teacher; while teaching school, he met and married sixteen year old Rosanna Cato. A year later, they had a son – Charles.

But then, ladies and money became his downfall. He headed for Texas to start a new life, leaving Rosanna and Charles with Rosanna's parents in Alabama.

He arrived in Texas in 1831 to set up his law practice and he became quite successful. And then he became an advocate for Texas independence from Mexico. In 1836, Travis became the Commander of The Alamo almost by accident. As events unfolded, he wrote one the most heroic letters in world history, and was part of one of the most remembered acts of heroism.

A TEKS supportive *Curriculum Guide* for pre-and post-performance studies and activities is provided to teachers for visits from William Barret Travis.

Portrayed by Bob Heinonen