

Last Stand

Introduction

Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer was a controversial figure in American history. He was a brilliant military tactician who won many victories against the Native Americans, but he was also known for his recklessness and arrogance. Custer's most famous battle was the Battle of the Little Bighorn, in which he and his entire command were wiped out by a force of Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors.

Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio, in 1839. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1861, and he fought in the Civil War on the Union side. After the war, he was assigned to the western frontier, where he fought against the Native Americans.

Custer was a skilled cavalryman, and he quickly rose through the ranks. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1866, and he was given command of the 7th Cavalry Regiment. Custer and the 7th Cavalry fought in several major battles against the Native Americans, including the Battle of Washita River and the Battle of Little Bighorn.

The Battle of Little Bighorn was a disaster for Custer and his men. On June 25, 1876, Custer and the 7th Cavalry attacked a large encampment of Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors. The Native Americans were led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull. Custer's men were outnumbered and outmaneuvered, and they were all killed.

Custer's death shocked the nation, and he became a national hero. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor, and his name is still synonymous with the American West. However, Custer's legacy is also controversial. He has been criticized for his

recklessness and arrogance, and for his role in the Indian Wars.

Despite the controversy, Custer remains a fascinating figure in American history. He was a brilliant military tactician, but he was also a flawed man. His story is a reminder of the complex and often tragic history of the American West.

Book Description

Last Stand is a comprehensive examination of the life and career of Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer, one of the most controversial figures in American history. Custer was a brilliant military tactician who won many victories against the Native Americans, but he was also known for his recklessness and arrogance. His most famous battle was the Battle of the Little Bighorn, in which he and his entire command were wiped out by a force of Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors.

Last Stand explores Custer's early life, his military career, and his role in the Indian Wars. The book also examines the historiography of the Battle of the Little Bighorn and Custer's legacy.

Last Stand is a valuable resource for anyone interested in American history, the American West, or the Indian Wars. The book is written in a clear and concise style,

and it is packed with information. **Pasquale De Marco** has done an excellent job of presenting a balanced and objective view of Custer and his career.

Last Stand is a must-read for anyone interested in the life and career of George Armstrong Custer. The book is well-written, informative, and thought-provoking. **Pasquale De Marco** has done an excellent job of capturing the complexity of Custer's character and his role in American history.

Last Stand is a valuable addition to the literature on the American West and the Indian Wars. The book is a must-read for anyone interested in these topics.

Chapter 1: The Early Years

1. Birth and Childhood

George Armstrong Custer was born on December 5, 1839, in New Rumley, Ohio. He was the son of Emanuel Henry Custer, a blacksmith, and Maria Ward Kirkpatrick Custer. Custer had two older sisters, Lydia and Ann, and a younger brother, Thomas.

Custer's father was a strict disciplinarian, and he instilled in his son a strong sense of duty and honor. Custer's mother was a devout Christian, and she taught her son the importance of faith and morality.

Custer was a bright and inquisitive child. He loved to read and learn, and he was always eager to try new things. He was also a gifted athlete, and he excelled in baseball, football, and track.

Custer attended the local public schools, and he graduated from high school in 1856. He then enrolled at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Custer was a good student at West Point, and he graduated in 1861, ranked third in his class. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army, and he was assigned to the 2nd U.S. Cavalry Regiment.

Custer's early years were marked by both success and tragedy. He was a bright and promising young man, but he also had a rebellious streak. He was often in trouble with his superiors, and he was even court-martialed on one occasion.

Despite his shortcomings, Custer was a gifted military leader. He was brave, resourceful, and determined. He quickly rose through the ranks, and he was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1864.

Custer's early years were a time of great change and upheaval. The United States was on the brink of civil war, and Custer was eager to play a role in the conflict. He would soon find himself on the front lines of the American Civil War, fighting for the Union cause.

Chapter 1: The Early Years

2. Education and Military Training

George Armstrong Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio, on December 5, 1839. He was the son of Emanuel Custer, a blacksmith, and Maria Ward Custer. Custer had two older brothers, Thomas and Nevin, and a younger sister, Lydia.

Custer's early education was unremarkable. He attended the local public schools and showed no particular aptitude for learning. However, he was a gifted athlete and excelled in sports such as baseball, football, and track and field.

In 1857, Custer entered the United States Military Academy at West Point. He was not a particularly good student, and he graduated near the bottom of his class in 1861. However, he was a skilled horseman and a natural leader, and he quickly rose through the ranks of the army.

Custer served in the Civil War on the Union side. He fought in several major battles, including the Battle of Gettysburg and the Battle of Appomattox Court House. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1864, and he was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery at the Battle of Trevilian Station.

After the Civil War, Custer was assigned to the western frontier, where he fought against the Native Americans. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1866, and he was given command of the 7th Cavalry Regiment. Custer and the 7th Cavalry fought in several major battles against the Native Americans, including the Battle of Washita River and the Battle of Little Bighorn.

Chapter 1: The Early Years

3. Early Career and the Civil War

George Armstrong Custer graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1861, shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 2nd U.S. Cavalry Regiment and immediately sent to the front.

Custer quickly distinguished himself as a brave and aggressive officer. He fought in several major battles, including the Battle of Bull Run, the Battle of Antietam, and the Battle of Gettysburg. He was promoted to captain in 1863 and to major in 1864.

In 1864, Custer was given command of the 3rd Cavalry Division of the Army of the Potomac. He led his division in a number of successful raids against Confederate forces, including the Battle of Trevilian Station and the Battle of Yellow Tavern.

Custer's most famous exploit during the Civil War was his pursuit of Confederate general Jubal Early's forces into the Shenandoah Valley. In a daring raid, Custer and his men captured Early's supply train and forced him to retreat. For his actions, Custer was promoted to brigadier general.

Custer's Civil War record was one of the most distinguished of any Union officer. He was a brave and aggressive leader who won numerous victories against the Confederates. His exploits made him a national hero and helped to secure the Union victory.

This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.

Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.

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