

Fredericksburg National Military Park



Richard Kirkland



Sergeant Richard Kirkland

2nd South Carolina Infantry (Confederate)

Battle of Fredericksburg

Sergeant Richard R. Kirkland fought in the Sunken Road during the Battle of Fredericksburg, but he is remembered for his mercy rather than for his fighting. The day after the battle, the 22-year-old South Carolinian risked his own life in order to carry water to wounded enemy soldiers who had fallen in front of his line. For his actions, he has been called “The Angel of Marye’s Heights.”