



## **General “Stonewall” Jackson**

The Stonewall Jackson Lake project was named for Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson, a famous general in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, who was born on January 21, 1824, in nearby Clarksburg, West Virginia. His father died when he was a young boy and he grew up with relatives in nearby Jackson’s Mill in Lewis County. This community, where Jackson spent his childhood years, is located only eight miles north of the dam.

In 1846, Jackson graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point. However, he later resigned from the Army and, before the Civil War started, was a professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy and Artillery Tactics at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia.

On July 21, 1861, Jackson was in command of a brigade during the Battle of First Manassas (Bull Run). Confederate General Bernard Bee, at a critical moment, was trying to rally his own men. He saw Jackson and his brigade holding fast and shouted, “There stands Jackson’s brigade like a stone wall! Rally behind the Virginians!” From that time on, Jackson was known as “Stonewall” Jackson.

Jackson went on to play an important role in many major Civil War battles. Some of his more famous battles occurred during Bull Run, the Shenandoah Valley campaign, the Defense of Richmond, the Second Battle at Manassas, Harper’s Ferry, Antietam and the Battle of Chancellorsville. Indeed, General Jackson is recognized as one of the outstanding tacticians in military history.

Stonewall Jackson died on May 10, 1863, after accidentally being shot by one of his own men during the Battle of Chancellorsville.