

Graveside Memorial Service

Ronald E. Newton

June 22, 2013

2:00 pm

2nd Continental Artillery Re-enactors: Opening Cannon Salute

The President approaches the grave, followed by the Color Guard, bearing the American Flag and the Society Flag. The Colors are posted, with the American Flag borne at the right of the tombstone and the Society Flag at the left. The President then retires, and returns, leading the members, two by two, who form a semi-circle in front of the tombstone.

President Tom Dunne: We have suffered the loss of a loyal and valued member. We are gathered to pay our tribute to his memory, and to express our grief at his passing from our ranks, and to dedicate ourselves anew to the continuance of the service to the country which he in his lifetime so well performed. Let us here resolve that we are pledged again to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism, love of country, and to aid in securing for mankind the blessings of liberty. Our Chaplain will now lead us in prayer.

Alternate Chaplain George Malinoski: Our heavenly Father, we thank Thee for our Country, for its glorious past and its promising future, and for the lives of those who have loved this land and have served it. We commend to Thee the soul of our departed Compatriot, who in his lifetime gave to his native land the testimony of his sincere patriotism. Amen.

Past President Dennis Marr: Ronald Erwin Newton's SAR membership was approved by the National Society on December 11, 1980. The first mention of Ron in our Chapter History was in 1983 indicating he was Chairman of the Albany County Eagle Scout Program for the Boy Scouts of America, and that belonged to the DC Chapter. In 1984 Ron was the organizer of a "Happy Birthday George Washington" dinner at the Century House in Latham and that he presented three Eagle Scouts with medals and certificates. In 1986 Ron was elected to the Board of Managers. In 1989 Ron was elected 1st V-P of the Chapter; served as Chair of the Boy Scout Committee and served on the Board of Managers. Ron was elected Chapter President in 1990.

Ron was President of the Empire State Society when the First NY Continental Chapter and the Walloomsac Battle Chapters were forming in 1994. He not only successfully organized both chapters but Ron was the first sponsor of many members who joined Saratoga Battle and Walloomsac Battle and was instrumental in getting many of that group involved in the SAR at all levels.

In March 1998 Ron transferred his membership to Maine after his retirement from the NYS Public Service Commission and he and his wife Helen moved there. His dedication to the SAR continued in the Maine Society and in the New England District where he served as VPG; was the current State Society Registrar and the current National Trustee. Ron maintained dual membership in our Society and in both the Saratoga and Walloomsac Battle Chapters as well as the Vermont Society. While active in the Maine Society and the New England District Ron, and Helen, always tried to attend Saratoga Battle and Empire State Society meetings and events. Ron always had a smile on his face and a kind word for all.

Ron's dedication to the SAR is well known and recognized. Ron received many SAR awards and as we read them you'll see he was involved in many other organizations as well. Ron was not only a good husband and father but also a dedicated public servant and a community minded "joiner" and a "doer".

VT Society President Tim Mabec: Ron received the following awards from the SAR

SAR Centennial Medal
State SAR Meritorious Service Medal
Liberty Medal
Patriot Medal
Silver Good Citizenship Medal
Fire Safety Commendation Medal
C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (silver)
C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (gold)
State Medal of Distinguished Service
Liberty Medal
30 Year Membership Award
Liberty Medal
National SAR Meritorious Service Medal
C.A.R.-SAR Medal of Appreciation (silver)
Liberty Medal
Robert E Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Medal

2nd VP Companion: Ron was an inspiration to us and too many in the SAR. He was our friend and our companion. He shared with us the hope of building the sterling character of our heritage into a future even more beautiful than the glorious past; to live a life worthy of the ideals which our forefathers wrought into reality. We find memories of days and deeds blending into a wreath of honor for Ronald E. Newton, a son of heroic ancestry. We give you his patriot heritage:

**David Newton, Pvt., VT Militia, Col. Woods's Regiment, 1780
Samuel Allen, Sgt., NY, 4th Regiment Westchester Co. Militia
Joseph Dimick, Pvt., CT Line, Col. S.B. Wood's & Col. Sheldon's Regiments.
Jason Downer, Pvt., CT, 3rd Battalion, CT Troops; Pvt., VT Militia
Stephen Gibbs, Pvt., MA Troops
Edmund Hodges, Pvt., 1st Lt., Capt., MA, Worcester Co.; Capt., VT, Ft. Fortitude
Seth Hodges, Sr., Capt., VT Militia; Patriotic Svc., VT, Comm. of Safety/Town Meeting Moderator
Seth Hodges, Jr., Pvt., VT Militia
Jehiel Isham, Pvt., CT Line, Col. Grosvenor's Regiment.
Pierce Mobbs, Pvt., CT Line, 6th Regiment
Ebenezer Newton, Pvt., NH Militia, Col. Ashley's Regiment
Samuel Pease, Pvt., CT, Lexington Alarm List/Pvt. 3rd & 8th Rgmts., CT Line
Samuel Spencer, Pvt., CT, Col. Baldwin's Regiment, Continental Army, CT Quota
Jonas Allen, Capt., MA Militia (Royalston)
Andrew Downer, Pvt., CT Militia, Coventry, CT Lexington Alarm
Daniel Isham, Pvt., CT, Col. Troops' Regiment; Drummer, RI, Sullivan's Expedition 1778
Elias Partridge, Pvt., VT Militia, Col. Olcott's Regiment, Oct. 1780 Alarm
Samuel Partridge, Pvt., VT Militia, Col. Olcott's Regiment, Oct. 1780 Alarm
John Shaw, MA/RI (DAR credits service from Dighton, MA; SAR credits RI service at same time)
Jeremiah Wilson, Pvt., MA Militia, Col. Whitcomb's Regiment. 19 April 1775 Alarm/Bunker Hill
Nathaniel Wilson, Patriotic Svc., MA, Member of Committee of 1776, Worcester Co. to raise men
Samuel Jones, Sr., MA, Patriotic Service: Surveyor of Highways, Acton, MA**

President Tom Dunne: Because Ron so loved the SAR we, his friends and compatriots have chosen to place an SAR Member Marker on his grave so that others who visit here may know the he was a member. (The President steps forward and unveils the marker)

2nd Continental Artillery Re-enactors: Musket Salute

Alternate Chaplain George Malinoski: God, our Father in heaven, we come before Thee with sadness in our hearts for our beloved member who Thou hast called from this earthly home. We seek Thy grace to bless and enfold him in Thy arms and lift the sadness from our being as we praise Thee for Thy promise that "They who love the Lord shall find eternal rest with Thee". With faith, hope and love to Thee our God, we let go of our beloved Ron Newton, a Son of the American Revolution. Amen.

The Compatriots then reverently file step forward, and follow the President out, the Color Guard remaining until all are gone, and then lowering (retrieving) colors and filing out.

2nd Continental Artillery Re-enactors: Closing Cannon Salute