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The Maryland Society
of the
Sons of the American Revolution



Grave Marking Ceremony
for
Patriot Private Benjamin C. Wood
1763-1838

April 11, 2009
2:00 PM

Congressional Cemetery
1801 E Street, SE
Washington, DC

PROGRAM

Welcome	R. Duane Tackitt, President
Presentation of Colors	MDSSAR Color Guard, William P. Smithson, Commander
Invocation	Ernest L. Irish, MDSSAR National Trustee
Pledge of Allegiance	James G. Ballard, Jr., President, Christian Ardinger Chapter
Pledge of the SAR	J. Patrick Warner, President, General William Smallwood Chapter
Life of Patriot Private Benjamin C. Wood	Barrett L. McKown, Treasurer <i>Prepared by Christopher T. Smithson, Chairman, Graves and Memorials Committee</i>
Dedication of Grave Marker	President Tackitt, First Vice President Hoover, and Trustee Irish
Musket Firing	MDSSAR Color Guard
Benediction	Ernest L. Irish

*Special thanks to Cindy Hays, Executive Director of
Congressional Cemetery, and her staff for their assistance in making this
event possible.*

*Reception will follow the ceremony at the home of
MDSSAR President and Mrs. Tackitt
620 East Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC*

Benjamin C. Wood

1763-1838

Benjamin C. Wood was a native of Charles County, Maryland, born in 1763, and volunteered for service in the Revolutionary War. He served as a private in Captain George Dent's Company who was under the command of General John Dent with the Maryland troops. Private Wood served in 1778, six months; in 1779, nine months; in 1780, nine months; in 1781, six months.

“During these periods of service he participated in actions that included watching the enemy and preventing the landings at Sandy Point, Maryland Point, Chicamungia tobacco warehouse, Pomonky tobacco warehouse, and the Lyles' near the mouth of Piscatawny creek...when at a short distance from Lyles' dwelling house which the enemy burned, there were thirteen of the enemy made prisoners by the party to which the declared belonged. His general in all of these tours was General John Dent of Charles County, Maryland.” *Paraphrased from the Declaration by Benjamin C. Wood to Justice of the Peace James Rod on February 10, 1834.*

Little is known about Private Wood's personal life. After the Revolutionary War, Benjamin moved to Alexandria, Virginia, and married Ann Talbott in Washington, DC on May 30, 1819. He filed for a pension for his service on December 9, 1833, at which time he was living in Washington, D.C. However his pension never mentions any family.

On February 9, 1838, Wood writes his will in Washington, D.C., stating that his body to be buried under the direction of the Washington Lodge, Alexandria, and the lodges of Washington, having been a faithful member. He leaves his personal property to his wife Lydia Wood and the balance after all specific requests to his niece, Mrs. Lydia A. Wood.

His death occurs on February 11, 1838, just two days after writing his will. His obituary appeared in the *Daily National Intelligencer* dated February 15, 1838: “*On the 11 instant, at his residence, Navy Yard, after an illness of a few days, BENJAMIN C. WOOD, formerly of Alexandria, D.C.*”

Wood was laid to rest at the historic Congressional Cemetery, in Washington, D.C. In April of 1938, a letter was written to the Quartermaster General, Memorial Branch at the War Department, Washington, D.C., by A. D. Miller which read “... *the application for headstone for Benjamin C. Wood is returned herewith...*”

Until 1938, Private Wood laid buried for 100 years with no stone to honor him for his service to our country. The headstone now reads, “*Benjamin C. Wood, Pvt. Dent's Maryland Troops, Revolutionary War, February 25, 1838.*”