

General David Humphreys Branch No.1

Plaque Dedication and Grave Marking Event Held Saturday, October 17, 2020

General David Humphreys Branch #1 convened a Grave Marking Ceremony Honoring 54 Revolutionary War Patriots at the Old Uptown Burial Ground in Derby, CT on Saturday October 17, 2020. 65 people attended on a sunny fall morning.

The program included a Posting of the Colors by the Connecticut Line/Living History Unit. Opening remarks were made by Ethan Stewart, Sr. Branch President. The CT Sons of the American Revolution 1st Vice President Steven Taylor provided greetings from the State Society. Although he could not attend, a Proclamation was read and received by the Mayor of Derby, CT Richard Dziekan. Greetings from the DAR were given by Connecticut State Regent Christy Hendrie.

An overview of the History of the Old Uptown Colonial Cemetery was given by Dan Bosque, Executive Director of the Derby Historical Society. The Dedication of the Plaque was led by President Ethan Stewart along with all Humphreys Branch members in attendance.

Additionally, a reading of all 54 Names on the Plaque was provided by Steven Chapman - Branch Historian, Chris Bandecchi - Branch Vice President and Tim Wilkins - Past Branch President. Steven Chapman Branch Historian also read Five Patriot's Biographies. We also had a wreath laying ceremony at the plaque by Tyler Smith accompanied by two Color Guard members.

We were honored to have Tom Callinan, past Connecticut State Troubadour and Honorary Branch Member provided songs and taps for the occasion. These included especially composed songs by Tom titled "David Humphreys' Legacy" and "Some Gave All – All Gave Some." Finally, a three volley Musket Salute was given by 18 members of the Connecticut Line/Living History Unit.

Two new members were inducted after the event by the Wolcott Branch SAR and the CT SAR State Society donated \$2000 to the Derby Historical Society so they may continue their historical program: "A Day in 1762" which they have been presenting for 40 years. This program includes 13 towns for 1,350 - 5th graders to learn about life in 1762. This is done at the General David Humphreys House which they maintain and is approximately ½ mile from the Colonial Cemetery.

The plaque was sponsored by the General David Humphreys Branch #1 with thanks to the NSSAR George Washington Endowment Fund. After the ceremony, the Derby Historical Society held a reception & tour at the General David Humphreys House Museum.

Links to Photos Albums:

Pictures from Ethan & Barbara Stewart <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Lzx3m4egCCmgtxkx7>

Pictures from Russ & Lydia Cumbee <https://photos.app.goo.gl/thkQUDAEe4k2CeUL9>

Pictures from Rich Kendall <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Ns1yssidZPvMJrNhw6>

Legacy Song of Gen. David Humphreys by Tom Callinan: [Legacy Song](#)

Respectfully Submitted by: Dr. Richard Forselius