

Sons of the American Revolution

Commemoration of the Life and Grave of Patriot

**General William Lee Davidson**



Sunday March 28, 2010

Two O'clock in the Afternoon

Hopewell Presbyterian Church Cemetery

Huntersville, North Carolina

Sponsored by the Mecklenburg and Salisbury Chapters

## Order of Ceremony

Greeting by F. Grady Hall, Past President Salisbury Chapter and NCSSAR

Presentation of Colors by NCSSAR Color Guard

Invocation by Chaplain General NSSAR Rev. Dr. A. Clark Wisner

Pledge of Allegiance—Led by Jay A. Joyce, Secretary, Mecklenburg Chapter

SAR Pledge—Led by LTC Paul R. Callanan, Past President, Mecklenburg Chapter

Welcome Remarks by VP General South Atlantic District, NSSAR Sam C. Powell, PhD

Welcome Remarks by LTC Frank N. Horton, President NCSSAR

“Star Spangled Banner” Sung by Sloane A. Wood

Dedication of SAR Grave Marker by Tim W. Berly, President, Mecklenburg Chapter

Unveiling of Grave Marker by LTC Paul R. Callanan, Past President Mecklenburg Chapter and F. Grady Hall Past President Salisbury Chapter

Presentation of Wreaths at Grave Site—Led by James H. Wood, VP Mecklenburg Chapter

(Individuals will render honors as their name is called)

SAR Recessional—Led by Ray M. Maxson, Past President Mecklenburg Chapter

Benediction by Chaplain General NSSAR Rev. Dr. A. Clark Wisner

“God Bless America” Sung by Sloane A. Wood

Retirement of Colors by NCSSAR Color Guard

## **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

## **Sons of the American Revolution Pledge**

We descendents of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of Liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.

## **Sons of the American Revolution Recessional**

Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an independent Supreme Court and a Nation of Free men.

A special Thank You to the descendants of General Davidson present today, and to The Rev. Allan L. Putil, Jr., Mrs. Tina Brown and the Session & Congregation of Hopewell Presbyterian Church

William Lee Davidson was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1748 to George and Margaret Davidson of Scots-Irish descent. As a small boy he moved with his parents to Rowan (now Iredell) county. In 1774 he served as a delegate from Rowan Co. to the First Provincial Congress in New Bern. He was a member of the Rowan Co. Committee of Safety and in 1775, accompanied COL Griffith Rutherford, as Adjutant, to the "Snow Campaign" in SC. In 1776 Davidson was commissioned a Major in the 4th NC Regiment of the Continental Line, serving in the defense of Charleston. He was in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, and served in the 5th, 3rd and 1st NC Regiments. William was promoted to LTC for gallantry at Germantown. He was at Valley Forge during the harsh winter of 1777. After the surrender of Charleston in 1780, he was without a command, and was appointed by General Rutherford as his second in command of the Western NC militia. He was severely wounded leading the NC militia at Colson's Mill in 1780 and after General Rutherford's capture at Camden, was appointed Brigadier General. After raising militia to serve under General Nathanael Greene, he was asked in late January, 1781 to defend the Catawba River crossings to protect Generals Greene and Morgan in their withdrawal from the advancing British forces under Lord Cornwallis. This was the start of the "Race to the Dan." General Davidson posted his 800 men at four fords on the Catawba. He was struck in the heart by a rifle bullet and killed at the Battle of Cowan's Ford on February 1, 1781. He was buried under the cover of darkness at Hopewell Church with his wife, Mary Brevard Davidson at his side and his Pastor from Centre Church, Thomas McCaule presiding. General Davison was 34 years old at the time of his death.

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Wreath Presentations

**Sons of the American Revolution**

Samuel C Powell, PhD	VP General	NSSAR
Frank Horton LTC USA Ret	President	NCSSAR
Timothy W. Berly	President	Mecklenburg Chapter
F. Grady Hall, III	Past President	Salisbury Chapter
Mike Scott	President	Salisbury Chapter
David Kilby	President	Catawba Valley Chapter
John Misenheimer	President	Lt. COL John Phifer Chapter

**The Order of the Founders and Patriots of America**

F. Grady Hall, III	Governor	North Carolina Society
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**Daughters of the American Revolution**

Courtney Layne	Regent	Mecklenburg Chapter
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**Children of the American Revolution**

Mary S. Morrow	President	Torrence Tavern Society
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**Descendents of General William Lee Davidson**

Robin Davidson Smith